THE GATEWAY

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PETE YEE

UNICIPAL MATTERS City Hall has launched two local projects with implications for students and citizens: a participatory budget review panel and an expansive free Wi-Fi service network.

Citizens weigh in on City budget

The local panel is a collaborative effort of the U of A and City of Edmonton

JENNIFER HUYGEN
Senior News Editor

The University of Alberta and City of Edmonton have partnered to bring democracy closer to the people with a new pilot project involving citizen discussion and input into the municipal budget.

The Edmonton Citizen Panel brings together 53 Edmontonians who are expected to provide direction to City Council on spending and priorities in next year's budget.

"The citizen panel is going to provide recommendations to City Council on the priorities that the annual budget should have in 2010–11. So they're thinking about the things that are important to them as panelists in terms of the city's services that people receive, and they're trying to give direction to Council on how Council can develop the budget in future," said Dr Marco Adria, an associate professor with the Faculty of Extension who is leading the U of A portion of the process.

Two-thirds of the participants in the panel were selected through a randomly-generated list from the White Pages, with the remaining third selected through outreach to inner city agencies and targeted invitation to ensure diverse representation.

"[The panelists] represent all income groups pretty equally; they represent different age groups pretty equally, and we didn't miss any wards in the city. We didn't leave out the Aboriginal or First Nations Peoples, we didn't leave out the disabled, so it really is a nice cross-section," Adria added.

> **"They're thinking about the things that are important to them as panelists in terms of the city's services that people receive."**
>
> **DR MARCO ADRIA**
> ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, FACULTY OF EXTENSION

This project marks the first of its kind in Edmonton's history, and the unique collaboration between the municipal government and U of A has extended to finances and divided responsibilities.

"The University part of it is to manage the process, and the City is providing the content on the budget," Adria explained. "So we at the University, we managed the recruitment of panelists, we designed the process in terms of looking at what the panelists would do in the six sections, and we're also providing evaluations."

According to Mary Ann Debrinski, the City of Edmonton Director of Financial Strategy and Budget Planning, the city portion revolved around providing the necessary information to participants.

"Some of the issues are helping them understand trade-offs, and how Council, when they're deliberating the budget, are always having to make trade-offs, because we never have enough resources to do all the things we'd like to do," she noted.

Both institutions will split the approximately $150 000 budgeted cost of the citizen panel 50/50.

The idea to strike a citizen panel was originally conceived last year, when Council inquired into the possibility of expanding participatory democracy initiatives in the city. This follows the trend of such urban centres as Porto Alegre, Brazil, and Toronto and Guelph, Ontario.

PLEASE SEE **CITIZEN PANEL** • PAGE 3

Business student launches Wi-Fi project for Edmonton

BEN DEXTRAZE
News Staff

As the University Wireless Service (UWS) is about to enter the third and final phase of its developmental program—systematically covering the University of Alberta in Wi-Fi nodes—two other programs are making their own wireless waves in Edmonton.

Eric Warnke is a fifth-year business student who has launched his own free Wi-Fi program in the city of Edmonton. Currently, Warnke's network is made up of over 20 host locations—mostly local businesses—which act as hotspots for wireless compatible devices.

"I think the old model which has companies making you pay for something that should be free—for something that should be a mandatory service—just isn't working anymore," Warnke said.

"Realistically, I don't think anyone should have to pay for an Internet connection. It's completely insane how much they charge us and it really doesn't cost them anything."

Warnke's project is funded privately by sponsors, and he hopes sponsorship interest will continue to grow and increase the size of his network—a network he hopes to see make it as far as the U of A's campus, which currently only has the UWS system.

"Our mandate is to bring free wireless Internet to all public spaces in Edmonton. Whether that's the coffee shop down the street or a bench in the middle of a neighbourhood park—you should be able to take out an Internet-capable mobile device and have the benefit of free wireless."

Warnke's efforts to create a free Wi-Fi network are not alone as the City of Edmonton launched its own wireless initiative in 2008 called Wireless Edmonton.

"Part of the challenge of government is that we do a lot of great things, but then we forget to tell people about it," Chris Moore, the City of Edmonton's Chief Information Officer, explained.

"We started out as a pilot in late 2007, but with the success of it through 2008, it has become a program. We call it Wireless Edmonton and what we're doing is blanketing some areas with a wireless signal from a roof mounted antennas, so it's a little more than your average hotspot in a store," Moore explained.

PLEASE SEE **WI-FI** • PAGE 2

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Reintegration Time

Nik Kozub tells us about Shout Out Out Out Out's latest album and how they're working to evolve dance music

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Kings of the court

The Bears look to repeat as champs at the CIS men's volleyball tourney—find out who's standing in their way

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colophon

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contributors

Ben Dextraze, Kyle Gibson, Ryan Beauvais, Sean Steels, Sunny Chan, Scott Fenwick, Aaron Yeo, David Johnston, Alexander Witt, Matt Pretty, Victor Vargas, Robert Frigon, Lauren Alston, Ross Lockwood, Ross Vincent, Curtis Horsburgh, Hylie Chan, Kati Kovacs, Jeff Martin, Selena Phillips-Boyle, Paul Swanson, Sam Brooks, Lauren Stieglitz,

Expansion of City's wireless network in works for '09

WI-FI • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The current coverage of the City's program is limited to an area downtown that surrounds City Hall and Churchill Square, as well as a handful of other locations throughout Edmonton. But as Wireless Edmonton is part of city council's new mandate for the next decade, it hopes to include Edmontonians through connecting them to the city's wireless infrastructure.

The city's network will be expanding in 2009 with new locations being added in the northeast Central Lions Senior Recreation Centre, the eastside ACT Aquatic and Recreation Centre, and the south-central Dr Wilbur McIntyre Gazebo at 104 Street and 83 Avenue. However, at this point, the City doesn't have any plans to bring free Wi-Fi to the U of A campus.

"The mandate really connects to City Council's 2009–2018 strategy. And it really fits into the area about citizen engagement. So it's not so much for us about providing free wireless Internet for people; it's about creating online systems or access to provide community participation and enhance social connectedness. So really, it's a foundation that, once it's in place, we can take to the next level," Moore said.

> "I won't use unparliamentary language, but it was very disappointing.
>
> **Dane Bullerwell**
> GSJS Treasurer
> *—on his reaction to discovering Steve Smith's activity during his last term which resulted in the Gateway's financial difficulties*

COUNCIL FORUM

Written by Kirsten Goruk

Students' Council meets every second Tuesday in the Council Chambers in University Hall at 6pm. Council meetings are open to all students. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 10 March, where free food will be provided for all attendees.

Recently, Council has introduced reuseable plates. So if you're at all interested in student politics, swing by, fill your belly, and get your democracy on.

GSJS MEET AND GREET

On Tuesday night, the Gateway Student Journalism Society (GSJS) Board of Directors sent two representatives to Council to present to councillors about the *Gateway* as an organization and its current financial state. The request for the presentation came from Board of Governors representative Michael Janz, who was concerned about the *Gateway*'s finances over the past year.

Dane Bullerwell, GSJS Treasurer, and Jennifer Huygen, the editorial board representative, were in attendance to present. Huygen began with an overview of the basic structure that governs the paper, including detailing the hierarchical framework and information about the dedicated fee unit (DFU) of $3.09 per semester for full-time and part-time students. The DFU accounts for approximately 33 per cent of the *Gateway*'s total budget, with the remaining two thirds coming from advertisement revenues.

From there, Bullerwell launched into an explanation of the financial difficulties that the paper has been dealing with since August 2008. After the hiring of Ashleigh Brown as the Society's Business Manager, it became apparent that during the previous manager Steve Smith's final term, certain aspects of his duties were neglected.

The paper owed roughly $100 000 to the Students' Union, and was out $25 000 in outstanding payments from advertisers. Since August, the Society has made great strides in acquiring the uncollected revenues and has looked into additional cost cutting methods including downgrading from premium to standard paper quality, and will be examining the feasibility of downsizing the summer publishing schedule from six papers to four.

During the question portion of the presentation, the pair were asked to explain why Councillors just hearing about the situation now, and why students had yet to be informed. Bullerwell explained that as soon as the Board was informed of the seriousness of the issue, they—along with GSJS Chair and SU representative Steven Dollansky—informed the SU audit committee of the situation.

Dollansky also informed Council that the *Gateway* has since repaid their outstanding debt to the SU, and that the only financial loss was from interest reven

HALFWAY THERE

Councillors ratified part one of the and University of Alberta Memoran Agreement with Coca-Cola. Include the contract were two deal-breakers the SU—an accurate representatio the funding from sales, and more in ence over the distribution of stu scholarships.

RATE INDIRA

Despite having one year left in her year contract with the U of A, Presi Indira Samarasekera has agreed an advance review by the Boar Governors. SU President Janelle M and Vice President (Operations Finance) Steven Dollansky will be ting in on the process and encoura Councillors to provide their thoug and feedback in an email that they be soon be receiving.

GLASS HALF EMPTY

Council was unable to continue their usually scheduled meeting Tuesday when they failed to m quorum—which requires that half p one of the voting members of Cou must be in attendance. Despite V President (Academic) John Braga's su cessful challenging of the Chair to p long the meeting long enough to vote the Coke contract, the numbers of th in attendance continued to dwindle a Council came to a premature close.

STREETERS

Compiled and photographed by Kelsey Tanasiuk and Pete Yee

As you may be aware, Ticketmaster and Live Nation recently announced their attempt to merge into a entertainment mogul company.

If you could, what two companies would you merge?



Marlee Cater
Phys Ed I

Purdy's and Dairy Queen. I like ice cream and chocolate at the same time.



Alex Brosseau
Engineering II

Pixar and Dreamworks. It would be like *Happy Feet* on steroids.



Pierre Royer
Engineering II

Weight Watchers and McDonald's because it would give people a reason to blame McDonald's.

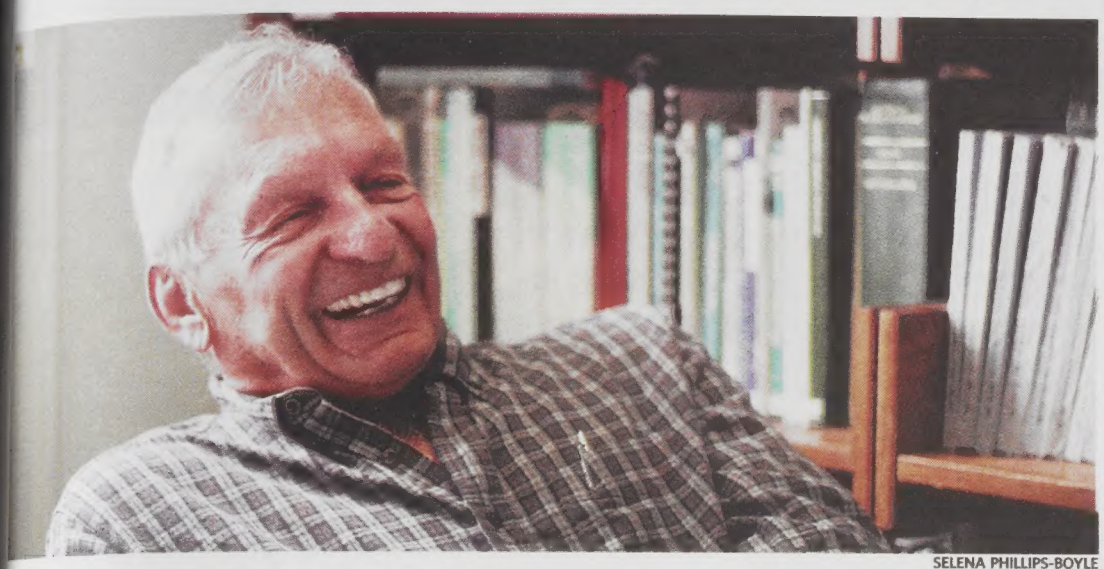


Kory Avch
Engineering II

Trojan and KY Jelly because it would full of slippery goodness. And safe, ve safe.



U of A biologist authors paper on issue of freshwater sustainability



SELENA PHILLIPS-BOYLE

SINKING FEELING U of A biologist Dr David Schindler talks about the paper he recently helped write—one that examined freshwater lakes and their viability as a future source of water—which he hopes will influence future public policy.

KYLE GIBSON
News Writer

Canada may have to re-evaluate the importance of freshwater lakes as carbon sinks in order to address the issue of global climate change, says University of Alberta biologist Dr David Schindler.

Schindler is a co-author of the paper "Sentinels of Change," in which he and his colleagues reviewed long-term studies of lakes and their effects on climate change in the Canadian context. The papers were submitted in response to the Chapman Conference held by the American Geophysical Union last September in Lake Tahoe, Nevada.

"This was a conference on lakes and their response to climate change. There were several papers in remarkable agreement that we felt were important enough that they should be known to the public-at-large—not just aquatic scientists," Schindler said.

In the paper, Schindler indicates that the current plan to use Laurentian Great Lakes as a future source of fresh water may not be viable in terms of sustainability. Data collected on the lakes indicates that the water supply is only renewed at a rate of less than one percent a year.

Schindler touched on studies which surveyed the climate conditions of the Great Lakes in the past compared to today, indicating that the 20th century appears to be the wettest in the past millennium.

> **"There were several papers in remarkable agreement that we felt were important enough that should be known to the public-at-large—not just aquatic scientists."**
>
> **DR DAVID SCHINDLER**
> U OF A BIOLOGIST

"Scientists have been saying for years that the Great Lakes water levels are precarious because so little is renewed each year, but this was the first widespread demonstration that they had been at low levels under climate conditions that were not that dissimilar than what we see today, and probably wetter conditions now than we will be seeing in the future with the predictive changes," he said.

Schindler and his colleagues also reviewed data on lakes and reservoirs as carbon sinks, indicating that lakes may actually be producing carbon emissions rather than buffering them. As a result, current climate models may be incorrect due to the exclusion of watershed carbon emissions.

"Based on these few studies, if you correct forested landscapes for those hotspots [of carbon emissions]—where most landscapes are going to be net sources of carbon to the atmosphere—there will be very few forest sinks. So for the people predicting atmospheric carbon, that's a really important thing to take into account for future models," he stated.

Schindler indicated that more inland water studies are needed to provide data on water levels and the role played by lakes in the carbon cycle.

Despite the bleak outlook for the role of lakes as carbon sinks, when asked if the paper will influence government policy towards climate change, Schindler is confident that it will influence future decisions.

"I think it will, the time is just right. If you look at who President Obama's advisors are, he has a group of advisors who know climate and ecosystem issues very well. There probably has not been a president with a staff that has that kind of climate horsepower."

Citizen panel to conclude talks in April

CITIZEN PANEL • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The decision passed 12–1 in Council, with only Ward Four Councillor Tony Caterina voicing opposition because of the expected costs of the project.

Aaron Rankin is a fourth-year Arts student who decided to volunteer with the citizen panel after taking a class on deliberative democracy. He is acting as one of the facilitators of the group's online Facebook page, where questions are posted to dovetail the discussion topics at the biweekly meetings of the panel.

He expressed enthusiasm about the potential of the project to solicit participation and apply principles of a more participatory form of democracy.

"I think it's promising, because Council has already promised to strongly consider the outcomes and the report of this session, and so they've already, in a sense, delegated some legitimacy at least, and authority even, to this council as a representative sample of Edmontonians," he said.

The panel held its first of six Saturday sessions on 21 February and the entire process is expected to wrap up on 25 April, 2009. The panel's considerations will be voiced to Council before they vote on the budget late this year.

—with files from Nick Frost

IN A TIMELY MANNER

September 2008
Administration directed to partner with the University of Alberta to demonstrate the use of a Citizens' Panel in obtaining public input into the City's planning and budgeting processes.

January 2009
Panel members recruited and a pre-survey is mailed to 5000 Edmontonians

21 February, 2009
Session one of Citizen Panel

25 April, 2009
Citizen Panel recommendations finalized

June 2009
Final recommendations to City Council and a post-survey is mailed to 5000 additional Edmontonians

April 2010
Evaluation completed and Budget Office determines if the process with whatever refinements are required will be used as repeatable Public Involvement Process for the 2012 budget cycle

Source: www.edmonton.ca/citizenpanel

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TUESDAY
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Wing Day
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or tired to JOIN IN THE FUN and
SING YOUR HEART OUT!

Students' Union Employment Opportunities

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA STUDENTS' UNION

TERMS OF OFFICE: MAY 1 2009 TO APRIL 30, 2010 (IN MOST CASES)
APPLICATION DEADLINE: MONDAY MARCH 9, 2009, 5:00 PM NO EXCEPTIONS
SUBMIT APPLICATION, COVER LETTER, RESUMES AND 3 REFERENCES (NAME & PHONE NUMBERS) TO 2-900 SUB
APPLICATION FORMS: AVAILABLE AT SU RECEPTION DESK 2-900 SUB, AND SUB, HUB, CAB, ETLC INFO BOOTHS OR ONLINE AT WWW.SU.UALBERTA.CA.

Important instructions

- Please submit only single sided documents.
- We thank everyone who applies; however, ONLY shortlisted applicants will be notified.
- Please be available for the noted interview time.
- Applicants must be undergraduate students and have paid full Students' Union fees.

Why not work on campus in a position that fits your class schedule? As as associate vice president you will gain valuable experience in volunteer management, budgeting and project management. All associate vice presidents are required to be in the office a minimum of 30 hours/week and are paid $1690/month.

ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT ACADEMIC

Reports to the VP Academic. Assists and reports on various academic issues – coordinating projects related to academic affairs. Represent the VP Academic and serve as the resource person for COFA, the ARG, GFCSC and student reps on University committees. **Remuneration: $1690/month**
For further information contact the VP Academic John Braga at 492-4236.
Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, March 18, starting at 5:00 pm.

ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT EXTERNAL

Reports to the VP External. Assists with organization of on and off-campus events designed to introduce members of the community and prospective students to the Students' Union and the U of A.
Remuneration: $1690/month
For further information contact the VP External Beverly Eastham at 492-4236.
Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, March 18, starting at 5:00 pm.

ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT STUDENT LIFE

Reports to the VP Student Life. Assists with the programming, events and the volunteer management components of the Student Life portfolio as well as other duties.
Remuneration: $1690/month
For further information contact the VP Student Life Kristen Flath at 492-4236.
Interviews scheduled for Thursday, March 19, starting at 5:00 pm.

CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

Reports to Students' Council and oversees all electoral logistics. Must be familiar with election process and bylaws. Excellent project management skills are required to succeed in this position.
Remuneration: $6667.50 honoraria
For further information contact Catherine van de Braak: ea@su.ualberta.ca
Interviews scheduled for Monday, March 30 starting at 5:00 pm.

Passionate about giving back to the campus community? Looking for invaluable work experience? Apply to be a service director with the Students' Union! You will supervise staff and volunteers, oversee a budget, market the service and ensure the overall smooth running of the service. All service director positions are 30 hours per week and report to the Senior Manager of Student Services.

ECOS (ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATION OFFICE OF STUDENTS) DIRECTOR

The Director of ECOS is responsible for researching, developing and implementing environmental programs for the Students' Union and students on campus.
Remuneration: $1,692/month
Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, March 18, starting at 6:30 pm.

OMBUDSERVICE (2)

(Term of Employment: September 1, 2009–August 31, 2010)
The OmbudService is a joint U of A and SU service, The service works to ensure fairness and due process and is responsible for information and referral on University policy, and protocols related to the academic and personal well being of all students.
Remuneration: $1,692/month
Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, April 8, starting at 4:30 pm.

SAFEWALK DIRECTOR

The Safewalk Director is responsible for the overall operation of the Safewalk program, including working with other units on campus to improve and promote safety on campus. This is an excellent opportunity to develop volunteer management and administrative skills.
Remuneration:$1,692/month
Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, March 18, starting at 7:00 pm.

STUDENT DISTRESS CENTRE DIRECTOR

In conjunction with the Distress Line, the SDC Director offers peer counseling, crisis intervention and information/referral services to the campus community. Applicants must have at least one year of comparable peer-counseling experience.
Remuneration: $1,692/month
Interviews scheduled for Thursday, March 19, starting at 4:30 pm.

STUDENT GROUP SERVICES DIRECTOR

(currently under review)
The Student Group Services Director is responsible for organizing and providing support to a diverse array of over 300 student groups on campus, including group registration, risk management, training and granting.
Remuneration: $1,692/month
Interviews TBA

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236

FULL JOB DESCRIPTIONS AVAILABLE AT WWW.SU.UALBERTA.CA/JOBS

Retired U of A prof authors book on AB Stonehenge

Gordon Freeman's new book focuses on the possibility that the Majorville Medicine Wheel can be used to mark seasonal changes

RYAN BEAUVIAS
News Staff

A former University of Alberta chemistry professor is challenging conventional wisdom on Canada's archaeological history by claiming that a seemingly ordinary site in southern Alberta is really a vast, open-air sun temple with a 5000-year-old calendar predating that of England's Stonehenge.

Mainstream archaeology considers the Majorville Medicine Wheel—located about 70km east of Calgary—to be just another spiritual monument left behind by early aboriginals. But a new book by U of A professor emeritus Gordon Freeman argues that the wheel is in fact the centre of a 26-square-kilometre stone lacework that predicts the changing seasons with greater accuracy than the modern Gregorian calendar.

"Genius existed on the prairies 5000 years ago," he said of the early Plains Indians who laid down the temple.

Freeman's own interest in archaeology dates back to childhood, when he would go out with his father into the dry-blown fields of his native Saskatchewan to collect stones and artifacts. His curiosity about those relics never waned, and when he inherited a third of his father's collection, he began to ask more questions.

He then asked a friend with an interest in prairie history to recommend interesting archaeological sites to visit. In 1980 that list took him to the Majorville Medicine Wheel, a place he has since come to call Canada's Stonehenge.

The rock-encircled cairn—which resembles a wheel with spokes—had been partially excavated in 1972, and was dated at about 5000 years old. But as he approached it, Freeman noticed something more intriguing lying beyond the wheel.

"Walking up the hill [...] we saw patterns all over the place, and I photographed them along with the medicine wheel. In those original photographs there's hardly anything of the wheel itself," he recalled.

When archaeologists told Freeman that the outlying rocks in which he'd detected these patterns were merely dropped by retreating glaciers, he knew he'd found his hobby.

> "Genius existed on the praries 5000 years ago."
>
> **GORDON FREEMAN**
> RETIRED U OF A PROFESSOR

After years of carefully photographing the site in all seasons and weather, noting how the rock arrangements coincided with the recurring patterns of the sun and the moon, he found that the rocks in fact mark the progression of the year with greater insight than our own calendar.

The rising and setting of the sun on the longest and shortest days of the year line up precisely with V-shaped formations found in the temple's far-flung rock arrangements. The lines, Freeman says, are long and extremely accurate, measurable on the same date of any given year to a 20th of a degree.

"Sometimes to a 30th of a degree, if you can imagine that," he remarked with wonder.

However, mainstream academia doesn't share his enthusiasm. Freeman says that his work has been ignored by archaeology conferences and his research denied funding by social science committees.

"They're all nice people," he said of his critics. "They all taught me an enormous amount of stuff [...] But they don't like to learn from an outsider."

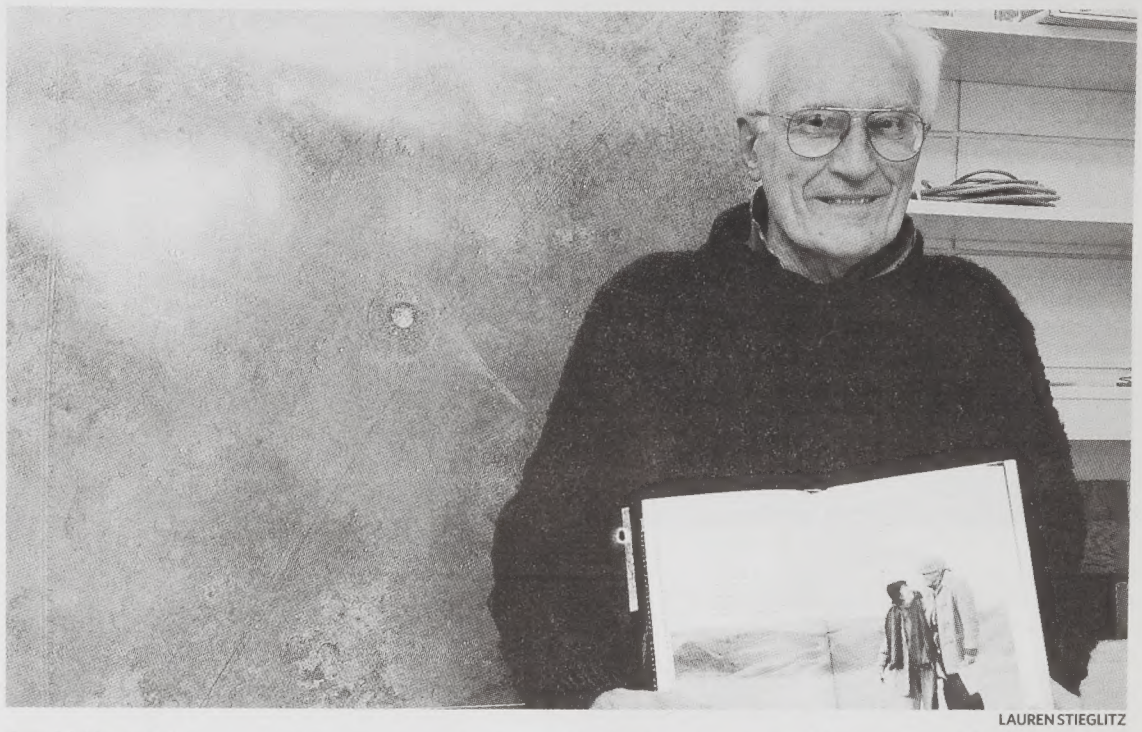
Though he has yet to read Freeman's book, U of A archaeologist Jack Ives is familiar with his ideas and the Majorville site through his previous position with the provincial government.

While he agrees that the Majorville wheel was of human design, Ives says that there's still a question of whether the spokes of the wheel were constructed at the same time as the central cairn. This would influence its astronomical role at different times, since a cairn alone would be unable to relate to astronomical observations.

"People should look very carefully at how [Freeman] makes his conclusions, as with any scholar, and size up how reasonable those conclusions are," Ives remarked.

Freeman is enjoying the opposition from professional archaeologists. He's excited that dedicated amateurs like himself are enthusiastic about the book.

Whether it takes five years or ten, he's confident that the people who inherit his critics' positions will see the "genius" in Majorville's long, invisible lines.



LAUREN STIEGLITZ

OPPOSING FORCE Former U of A professor Gordon Freeman isn't deterred by academia's skepticism of his theory.





SU Presidential candidates detail their vision for 2009/10



PETE YEE AND SAM BROOKS

HOLLYWOOD SQUARES Presidential candidate hopefuls (clockwise from top left) Mustapha Makhdoom, Jesse Hahn, Kory Mathewson, and Craig Turner make up the most hotly contested race in this year's SU Executive elections.

The President is responsible for the overall affairs within the SU. Their portfolio includes advocating for students, creating outreach opportunites to the surrounding community and ensuring that there is a student-focused environment on campus.

Compiled by Sean Steels

1 What qualifications make you most effective as a candidate for the SU presidency?

Jesse Hahn: My attitude. I think attitude has got to be the number one qualification hands down for anybody, regardless of experience. That's not to take my experience lightly, so to speak [...] I've worked arms length with the Students' Union since I ran for Vice President (Operations and Finance) two years ago.

I've been on the executive of the Environmental Conservation Students Association. Currently, I'm collaborating with several stakeholders on campus: Campus Sustainability Coalition, CAPS, Greenpeace, [and] we're coordinating a eco-entrepreneur career forum. I'm also the director of a non-profit organization that I co-founded three or four years ago. We promote environmental initiatives.

Mustapha Makhdoom: Well, I have a stick. This stick has a very interesting history to it. It has traveled for many a day, for many an era previous to this. And what does it signify? It has all the qualities of a presidential candidate. Why? Because if I hit someone with it, I'll probably knock them out. Most candidates are probably saying how honest they are. It's not about honesty, it's about who has the biggest stick. You don't even have a stick. I want a bigger one. I am loud, so I can speak above other people. But I can also be quiet when I need to listen.

Kory Mathewson: I've worked pretty effectively with a few different groups on campus. I've worked with the Students' Union through the Restricted Access campaign. I've worked with Council. I've worked with engineering students on the Engineering Students Society.

I'm the founder of the University Improv Group, a strong group on campus, and in doing so have worked with various other student groups. My focus is on communication. I think that's one of my most generous attributes. I have a strong focus to communicate with students and have gained experience in a lot of different ways. I think I can bring that passion for communication to this position.

Craig Turner: I think both the overall experience and diversity I have help to qualify me for this position. I've worked both within the Students' Union in a number of positions, including this year as Associate Vice President (Academic), as well as outside the SU with other on campus groups, including work with the Lister Hall Students' Association and the HUB Community Association, the Campus Sustainability Coalition, and some others.

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I think this position requires a lot of personality skills, a lot of being able to work with others. Obviously, the president is responsible for leading the organization and working with the rest of the executives. So I think the ability to work with people and communicate effectively along with the ability to lead will really help me to be an effective president.

2 How do you plan to represent student concerns with the University administration, especially those related to the rising costs of education?

Hahn: On a personal level I'd like to form some sort of trust-based relationship with the administration. I'll be a new executive coming in and there'll be a lot of hacks out there that are skeptical that you can have a good relationship with the administration. I think it's important to show them that we can get in there—face-to-face with the administration. While we might not be able to directly lower tuition, it's essential that we get creative in other ways to lower costs for students—whether that means cheaper textbooks, transportation costs, or lower food prices, there are ways to get costs down for students.

Tuition might not be the best approach anymore. We have the ceiling on it; I think that's great. I think where we really need to focus is getting rent increases tied to a ceiling as well.

Makhdoom: Who is increasing tuition? Find me the person. I'll beat them down like it's nobody's business. I'll go get my other stick. I have two sticks. I can wield this baby like—have you seen *Lord of the Rings*? Have you seen Aragorn? He's got nothing on this stick. The elf? He's got nothing. The dwarf is pretty stout though, you can't really knock him over, or if you do, he can't get back up.

The point is, tuition is the biggest concern, I'm pretty sure, right now for students. It affects whether or not you can go to school, if you can remain in school. If you get halfway through your degree and can't afford anymore, you're screwed. So then most people come out and say, "We're going to talk about it, we're going to do this, do that, and talk and talk and talk." It's time for action. You can stop a crowd, but you can't stop a mob. The students have to unify, and once they unify, people will listen.

> **Who is increasing tuition? Find me the person. I'll beat them down like it's nobody's business. I'll go get my other stick. I have two sticks.**
>
> MUSTAPHA MAKHDOOM

Mathewson: I think that students' concerns can best be represented by my position as president. My experience working with the University administration on the Bear Tracks upgrade has given me a lot of insight as to the language and procedures used within the University administration. I think I can bring that to the position to represent students' concerns. My focus is on quality of student experience and I think that advocating that to the University administration with my experience and know-how will provide the most effective route.

Turner: I definitely think that there's strength in numbers. I think this will involve, depending on what we're trying to achieve, partnering with a number of other groups, both on campus and off campus. These might be student groups, they might be other associations such as the Graduate Students' Association. We could partner with community groups surrounding the University or larger local or internationally based community groups. We really [should] just be trying to ensure that students are the priority on campus. Without students there wouldn't be a university here. While there are obviously other priorities at the University, students need to be a priority.

> **I think it's important that students be able to access our 24 hour study space. It's all-around important for the safety of society.**
>
> JESSE HAHN

3 What do you believe to be the most important issue for students beside tuition?

Hahn: I'd say safe, reliable, and affordable late-night transportation. I think it's important that students be able to access our 24-hour study space. I think it's a shame that people who work night shifts have to pay high taxi fares. It's all-around important for the safety of society. It's one of those issues that's a student issue, but also a societal issue, and I think it's a really good example of how the SU can change society in a positive way.

Makhdoom: An ancient Chinese merchant told me once a long time ago that the most important issue in the world is inner peace. You know what I mean? Inner peace is not only in yourself, it's also within the unit, you know what I'm saying? They say a bird in the hand, when it rolls down a hill, doesn't make a sound if it's crashing out with the bathwater.

Mathewson: Quality of student experience. This covers a lot of things from student life to whether or not instructors are listening to their feedback. My experience in student groups has provided me a lot of insight into the level of support needed for these groups. This all ties back to the quality of the student experience. Whether the quality of instruction is at a reasonable level or whether the support for their student groups is at a reasonable level, a good student experience keeps students on campus and makes them do better in university. I think there's always room for improvement.

> **The way the Students' Union is run needs to be effectively communicated so that students can understand what's going on and that students can provide direction to the SU because that's what it's about.**
>
> KORY MATHEWSON

Currently, there are a few different things I've focused on in my platform that can be improved, especially in regards to communication with students. The way the Students' Union is run needs to be effectively communicated so that students can understand what's going on and that students can provide direction to the SU because that's what it's about. That's why I'm planning on instituting a students' survey in 2009 so that the entire student body can provide direction to the SU.

Turner: I think one of the key issues that a lot of students are facing in the ever-changing world of the university environment is the issue of making their university experience memorable, making it something other than about books and classes. A lot of students on this campus are involved in student groups. We have thousands of students involved in student groups. We have more students groups than any other campus in this country, and I don't think that students should have to suffer academically because of their involvement. I think the university needs to look at rewarding students for their involvement in student groups, whether it is specialized credit for these involvements, more programs like Community Service Learning.

We need to push for more scholarships and bursaries, more awards for these sorts of students. The University should build leaders, not just academically, but in the greater community as well.

4 With the SU having to readdress finances in light of the economic crisis, how do you plan do protect student programs from budget cuts?

Hahn: By any means necessary. I could get into details but that would get ugly.

Makhdoom: That reminds me of when I was a kid, my grandfather, his name was—well they just called him Mr X because he was a very clandestine fellow who used to get into protests. It reminded me of that question.

Mathewson: My approach is three-fold. First, I'd like to ensure that all SU businesses are generating revenue. This will ensure constant revenue streams so that we can support the services we have now. Second, I think we need to be providing students with the services they want and need. To gain this feedback we're going to use the undergraduate student survey in 2009 so students can effectively communicate to us what they want and need. Third, I want to focus on low-cost communication, integrating the SU communication methods with low-cost, web-based alternatives, enhancing the website, Twitter, the blog—these are all effective, low-cost communication methods that keep the budget down.

Turner: I think by making it clear to the University that students provide a lot to this campus in return. Looking at student groups and the things they provide, they provide a lot of social experiences for students and, in some cases, even staff and members of the community. It looks great on the University. The greater public at large benefits from the work that students do on this campus.

Additionally, I think the University needs to realize that it's also a matter of dollars and cents when it comes to what the students do on this campus. When the students are empowered, they will provide themselves services that the University then doesn't have to provide [...] The more the University can help students out, the more students can give back to the University.

> **I think the University needs to realize that it's also a matter of dollars and cents when it comes to what the students do on this campus.**
>
> CRAIG TURNER

5 If you could choose any theme song to represent your campaign, what would it be and why?

Hahn: "Shaft," because I'm a badass mo-fo.

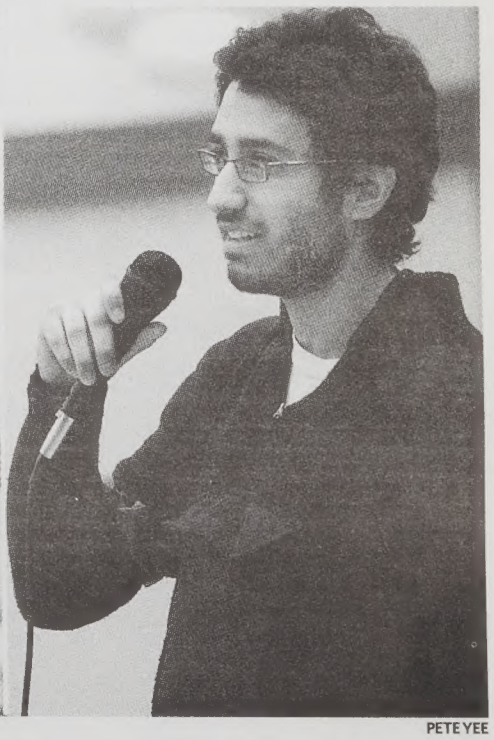
Makhdoom: I'm going to sing it. "I been really tryin' baby!" That's all I know. It's a Marvin Gaye song that they play right before they do someone.

Mathewson: The campaign has been one of a lot of support and involvement, so it would probably be a choral song, maybe "We Will Rock You." It would be Queen-based. The campaign has had a lot of differences in direction through input from students.

Turner: I'm going to have to go with "Any Way You Want It" by Journey. First of all, nothing beats Journey. I think that my campaign is going to try to focus on the individual student experience, helping students set the direction of the SU, helping students set the direction of the University, and ultimately the direction the University is going in.







PETE YEE

YOU'RE IN LISTER COUNTRY The four candidates address the student population assembled at the Lister Forum on Wednesday night. The evening included an open question period for student voters.

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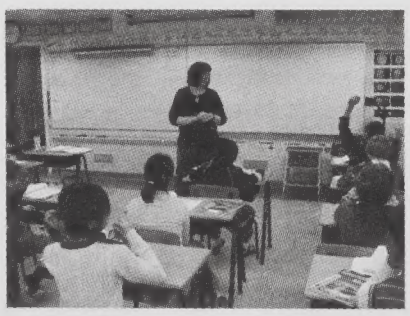
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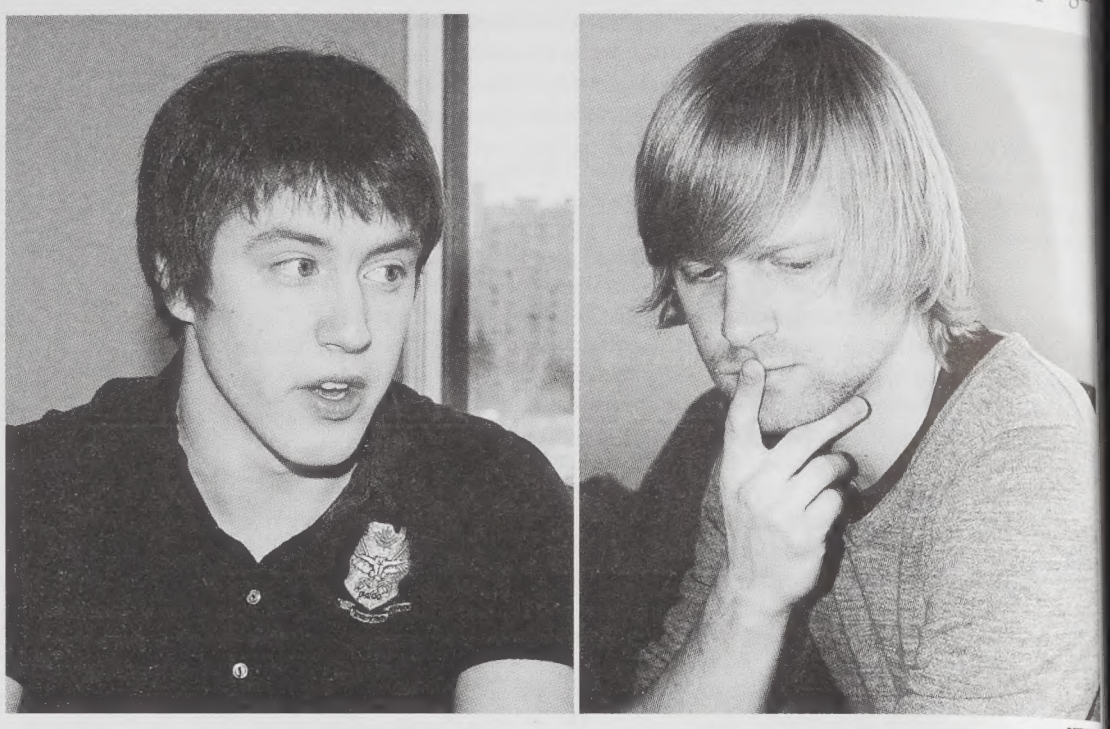
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Student Life race pits Dehod against Clarke

The current SU councillors detail their platforms for this year's campaign



PETE YEE

TWO TO TANGO Vice President (Student Life) candidates Ian Clarke and Nick Dehod discuss issues pertaining to student programming and student groups, as well as outlining their plans to keep the U of A campus sustainable.

The Vice President (Student Life) is responsible for university issues that are not directly related to academics, including student programming and SU student services. They are in charge of organizing events like the Week of Welcome and Anti-Freeze.

Compiled by Sunny Chan

1 What new ideas do you hope to bring forward as VP (Student Life)?

Ian Clarke: As we saw this year with the Restricted Access campaign, involving student groups improved the amount of people that were at rallies. This year, I'm going to try to focus on more student groups getting involved in events like Week of Welcome and Antifreeze. We've seen a dip in the attendance, so if we push for more student groups coming, more people will want to get involved.

Another thing that I'd like to push is the new proposal for a Physical Activity and Health Centre (PAC). This is something that could benefit students if done right, and I'm going to be putting a lot of effort toward that. I feel that the PAC will address a lot of concerns that students had this year, but it has to be done right, mainly in terms of student taxation.

First and foremost, a recent survey has shown that students would support a fee of under $25, so if it was in that range, it would be alright. Also, if students only pay for the PAC once they receive the benefits, that would be fine as well; we shouldn't be paying for buildings that are being built but we're getting nothing from them.

The fee has to address three things. First, it has to be accountable: the University has to tell us where the money is going, not just disappearing. And they have to tell us why the money is going there—it has to be transparent. Lastly, it has to address student input: we must have a say in how it's built. If we do, we could add a campus rec space, we could add student space, and we would be improving our workout facilities.

Nick Dehod: One thing that I think we need to improve on is reaching out to students on the larger campus. I think right now we spend a lot of time focusing on SUB, so one thing I'd like to try next year is creating an SU street team. The objective of that would be to reach out to students who are on the larger campus and to better inform students of the services and programs that we do offer already.

I'd also like to restructure Student Group Services, because right now, we have a director and an associate director who are doing a fantastic job to try to meet students' needs. However, the fact remains that they're putting in almost full-time hours and they're also full-time students. If we're going to better serve those student groups, I think what we need to do is create a full-time position with perhaps two associate directors so that we can do a better job of helping students find space for their groups as well as assist them better in transitioning and working on their budgets.

2 Volunteerism seems to be declining on campus in recent years; as VPSL, how do you plan to engage students in SU events like Week of Welcome and Antifreeze?

Clarke: I think as a whole, the campus attitude has changed. With rising tuition costs, students are having more trouble getting involved, and they want to spend more time on schoolwork and the rest of the time with their friends. If their friends are in student groups and people want to spend time with their friends, then if more student groups got involved more people would get involved.

Dehod: As I've said, I think a street team would be a way to handle that issue. I also believe that one thing we can do a better job of is helping out student groups—helping them communicate that they have these events going on as well as providing them with support if they are holding events.

3 How would you increase the visibility of the VPSL portfolio when not planning major events such as Week of Welcome and Antifreeze?

Clarke: Students have a right to know what the Students' Union is doing at all times. I will try as best as I can to keep updating on the important issues at hand. Some things that come to mind right now are how the proposal for the PAC is going, how the renegotiations for the U-Pass contract are going—because that's up at the end of the year—as well as the contract with Aramark food services, which is also up at the end of the year. I would like to raise awareness by keeping students updated.

Dehod: There are a lot of huge issues that we have to deal with next year. I think that the VPSL will be very visible next year, because we'll be dealing with renegotiating the U-Pass, the Aramark contract coming up, and we'll also have the Physical Activity and Health Centre that could possibly come to a referendum. So I think that next year you'll be seeing the VPSL doing a lot of things throughout the year.

4 The SU has made steps toward becoming a "greener" organization in 2008–09 by hosting Eco-Week and starting a composting program in SUB. How do you plan to follow up on student sustainability initiatives this year?

Clarke: There are three main ways to push for a greener campus this year. The first one is the newly created University Sustainability Office. If you tie that in with the work that ECOS [Environmental Coordination Office of Students] does, they'll be able to review SU policies to see if we can increase greener practices. The second way is by promoting our existing services. There are a lot of services that no one knows about: there's a carpool, there's renting reusable plates, there's bike rentals—not a lot of people know about those, so increasing awareness would really help. The third way is working more closely with the VP (Operations and Finance) to see if we can reduce waste in our businesses and retrofit our utilities to decrease waste.

Dehod: One initiative that I'd like to try would be to create an SU certification system. This system would basically inform students of whether or not some of the businesses on campus are eco-friendly. This would include whether or not they provide students with discounts if they bring in reusable containers to help encourage sustainability on campus.

5 If you could choose any theme song to represent your campaign, what would it be and why?

Clarke: Rick Astley's "Never Gonna Give You Up," because there's never too many people that have been Rickrolled.

Dehod: "Don't Stop Me Now" by Queen, because I'm having such a good time, I'm having a ball.

Trueblood sole candidate for VPA

The Vice President (Academic) is responsible for advocating for student interest, including lobbying for academic issues such as textbook costs. They also work closely with faculty associations and General Faculties Council.

Compiled by Scott Fenwick



SAM BROOKS

ALL BY HERSELF Leah Trueblood is running uncontested for the VPA race.

1 What would you say is your top priority as incoming VPA, and how do you plan to achieve this?

My top priority is raising the profile and power of the Council of Faculty Associations (COFA) because, at the risk of sounding like a horrible motivational speaker, it gives us 14 more points of pressure or power for internal lobbying. They have the examples and they're more efficient per dollar and per hour at outreach especially with examples of how academic advocacy plays out on the ground and can work up through the Deans. And then in five–seven years, I would like to see the Council of Faculty Associations be just as influential in terms of internal lobbying as the Students' Union.

As for how to do it, I think the VPA needs to change from a supervisory role to more of a collegial role. I think we need a formal plug-in between the executive, the advocacy department, and the Council of Faculty Associations. I am not sure exactly what this is going to look like legislatively, but I think the Council of Faculty Associations needs power and deserves power.

2 In recent years, the VPA has overseen the dissolution of two faculty associations (FA). How do you plan to oversee FAs and ensure that they remain viable organizations?

I think that's why [FAs are] my number one priority, because when faculty associations are working, everyone benefits tremendously. If faculty associations have more power, I think it's less likely that we're going to see the sort of challenges there have been in the past. Faculty associations need to be taken seriously for their work to be done seriously.

3 What would you say is your top priority as incoming VPA, and how do you plan to achieve this?

To me, [COFA is] like a web of influence and power and great ideas and energy that is really faculty specific and is really in touch with those issues. So I think connecting faculty associations with the Chief Returning Officer in case there are extra GFC spots—as there were last year—I think is a really important answer. I think making the portfolio accessible is very important.

In the past, I think it's been very esoteric, very committee-based. I would like to see the portfolio move away, delegating some of that to the Associate Vice President (Academic), and spending more time in outreach, more time on communicating issues, because I think the issues are really central to everyone's experience, class sizes, good teaching—everyone understands technology in the classroom, everyone understands these issues.

4 What is your take on the progress made thus far on the University's 2007–2011 academic plan, "Dare to Deliver"?

One of the things about the Academic portfolio is we all agree about what good teaching is. We all agree, I think, that big classes are bad, small classes are good. So I think what's been set out in the academic plan is fantastic. In practice, I think we haven't made a lot of progress. We have isolated pockets of success for sure, that can be used as examples to move forward. But I think, generally, have we changed the culture of teaching? Have we changed the culture of learning? No. Have we dramatically increased the quality of life for our undergraduate students? No. So I'm hopeful, but not satisfied.

5 If you could choose any theme song to represent your campaign, what would it be and why?

The *Pink Panther* theme song because it's a fabulous song for one, and two, because it adds a sense of drama to the Academic portfolio that I think is important.

Referendum question "Yes" side unopposed

Compiled by Scott Fenwick

1 Why did you decide to take a student health and dental plan to referendum?

I think that it's really important for the student population to have a health plan. We are really meek in the fact that we don't have one. We were able to get a plan this year that is what we wanted, with a universal opt-out, with health and dental coverage at a reasonable cost. I think that's something students need the chance to have a say on.

2 A student health plan has been presented as a referendum question in the past, but failed to pass. Why do you think this year's plan will win with students?

There's a couple of differences with this plan in comparison to the past. The first being the opt-out that we have this year is entirely different than the previous year. The previous year, you had to have an existing plan and provide documentation of it in order to opt-out of the plan. This year, there's none of that requirement. No documentation is necessary. You don't need to have a plan already. If you don't want it, you can just opt-out. I think that makes it a lot more palatable for people who say, "Well, this isn't the kind of coverage I'm looking for, or I already pay that fee to begin with." Okay, that's fine. You just opt-out.

It's also different in that it's health and dental coverage this year, whereas the previous year, it was only health coverage. This one has really extensive benefits such as travel and dental and vision and all that. It's a fairly comprehensive plan, and I think that will appeal to a lot more students than maybe it did previously.

3 The health plan "Yes" side of the campaign that you're running is unopposed. How does that change your strategy?

Starting out with this campaign, it was never really intended to be just an, "I want you to vote Yes," kind of deal. It was meant to be informational, so to present information to students so that they can make a choice for themselves. Of course, it has a bit more of a "Yes" slant to it because it is a "Yes" side, but overall, it's meant to be an educational referendum campaign. It didn't change our strategy too much because we would have done the educational component of it anyway.

4 Despite a lack of formal opposition, what do you see as being the challenges to an implementation of a student health plan this year?

If there are challenges to it going through, [they'll be that] students don't know enough about it or don't feel that they've been adequately prepared to vote for it. Those are the challenges to it passing. If it were to pass, the challenges to implementing it are anything from logistics to figuring out the online systems to finding out how it would work with the other health fees that we pay, and making it work with the pharmacy and the Health Centre and all that. Those will be challenges to be ironed out if it were to go through.

5 If you could choose any theme song to represent your referendum side, what would it be and why?

"The Good Times are Killing Me," by Modest Mouse. I'm having fun with this campaign. It's a lot more fun than running a personal one.

The total cost of the health and dental plan is $192.35 annually from September–August and all full-time and part-time students who have paid their SU fees are automatically enrolled. The plan additionally offers a range of services including vision coverage, physiotherapy, prescription drugs, as well as tuition and travel insurance.

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Hey, parent: leave those kids alone

NOT MANY INDUSTRIES ARE BOOMING UNDER the current sky-falling gloom-and-doom scenario, but demand for oppressive tools of parental dictatorships is greater than ever.

Last week, a new type of commercial drug testing kit that detects prescription as well as illicit substances hit shelves. Sensationalist, presumptuous headlines such as "Test kit highlights possible rise in prescription drug use among kids" have served to drive the moral panic further, while simultaneously providing free advertising. These kits are only the newest addition to a torture chest of invasive parenting products including driving monitors, cell and vehicular GPS trackers, and drug-sniffing dog rentals. No word yet on whether cavity searches or subdermal tracking implants are available.

As if painfully aware of the creepy, totalitarian overtones of their own product, Confirm BioSciences CEO Zeynep Ilgaz has apologetically stated that some parents "only" leave the box on kitchen counter as a threat. Because, you know, openly displaying menacing paranoia towards your kids on a constant basis, with them not knowing when the axe will drop, is supposed to be somehow less appalling than getting the accusations over more quickly.

These products are abhorrent because they're based on the fundamental assumption that parents can't and shouldn't trust their children. It's bad enough when overprotective fathers and mothers are compelled to wrap their kids up in bubble wrap and shove them in a padded room for safety, but this added suspicion is perverse. Some degree of privacy is necessary for one's psychological well-being.

Given the amount of financial and, more importantly, emotional investment that parents give their children, an almost unhealthy level of concern for their well-being is practically forgivable. But that doesn't make it any less wrong. Kids will do stupid, irresponsible, unsafe, and self-damaging things—so will adults, for that matter. Experimentation isn't only inevitable; it's not even something to fear. Some of the best learning experiences in life are born from the consequences of standard adolescent stupidity. Without making mistakes, we'd never have the perspective to understand success and failure. And we'd wonder about intense pleasures we'll never know, not being aware that we aren't really missing anything after all.

If you can't tell whether your offspring are taking drugs, then they're probably fine. Or, at the very least, they aren't in enough trouble to warrant drug testing. If they become meth addicts, you probably won't need any special products to notice their scabs, rotten teeth, and sporadic visions of giant, venomous leeches. But if they're eating healthy, getting exercise, straight-As, and toke now and then, that shouldn't be much of a problem. What momma don't know won't hurt her.

In spite of inevitable fights, clashes, and conflict, family relationships should be based on mutual trust and understanding. Being a kid should be about carefree, irresponsible, juvenile stupidity, not living under Kim Jong-Il.

CODY CIVIERO
Opinion Editor

Stick-hitting apathy

Dear Mr Makhdoom: I see what you did there.

Whether or not you're pitching yourself as a legitimate candidate, your joke is paper-thin. You may think that your non-sequiturs and pseudo-radical bigotry hidden behind a façade of satire are hilarious to your drinking pals, but none of us are laughing. Your punchline died before you even told us about three guys walking into a bar.

And yet, I commend the efforts of your campaign. By shouting about llamas and cheese-waffles from your student-funded $550 soap-box, you're inciting exactly the kind of anger that voters on this campus need. While this year's exec might excuse the lack of student action as "just a more passive way of getting involved," very few of them can justify sitting idly by while you're running around campus making a mockery of the election process. While subtle, the tactic is utterly brilliant.

Keep up the good work, sir.

MIKE KENDRICK
Editor-in-Chief



LAUREN ALSTON

LETTERS

Superstitions are far from exclusive to Africa

Having spent four months living in a town in Malawi, Africa, I can attest to the types of stories mentioned in Conal Pierse's opinion article (re: "Ignorance a blow to African mojo," 24 February).

I often found myself baffled at unexplained events being attributed to witchcraft, and the reactions it generated, sometimes at official levels. That being said, I wanted to point out that referring to "culturally bred naivety" indicates a bias which assumes our society is free of this type of ignorance.

Attributing riots to witchcraft when soccer fans the world over are notorious for violent behavior, and isolating elected officials for their failure to adopt responsible health policies when some "western" figureheads have issued recommendations as negligent as Manto Tshabalala-Msimang's garlic recipe (Google Pope Benedict XVI's visit to South Africa, and his rejection of the use of condoms in that nation) fails to fully address the problem.

Having witnessed the non-secular overtones of the recent American election, I can't help but feel that our society is no better at accepting "reason over mysticism." I agree with your opinion that government policy concerning magic and health in some African countries is in need of reform, but I just want to add that the problem isn't exclusive to that continent.

TONY HANCOCK
Alumnus

Piracy doesn't take food off of anyone's table

Cody Civiero's article (re: "Social Mutiny needed to stop piracy," 24 February) seems to outline all that is wrong about piracy: not all that much.

The only downside that Cody actually states that is actually a downside of piracy is damage to small artists. But let's face it: artists make more money from gigs than they do from crappy royalties deals. And when talking about CD sales, I'm willing to bet that the $10 you paid to the band member after the show for the CD probably helps more than the $15 you give to HMV or Best Buy.

And what about bands that don't have CDs, or aren't stocked by major retailers? How else am I going to get a hold of their music without downloading? And when they tour, I drop $60 on merch and a ticket for them.

And movies? You mean those cheap, badly produced works? Those things bomb in theatres because they suck, not because people pirate them. They wouldn't watch those movies otherwise anyways. Piracy isn't going to stop, especially not now that the internet is as big as it is. The only way is to embrace it, and show episodes online like NBC has started to.

Viva la Pirates.

MINGHIN MICHAEL FOK
Arts I

Sentencing circles misread

Robert Frigon's discussion of sentencing circles (re: "Sentencing circles are a limp sanction," 24 February) reveals more about his own lack of knowledge than anything about Canada's justice system. As members of a research group on Indigenous legal theory, please allow us to clarify some points.

Sentencing circles weren't established for "crimes Aboriginals can't relate to." Nor were they "created for" Aboriginal people, but in many cases are based on pre-colonial legal orders created by Aboriginal peoples and incorporated by Canadian law. Whether the crime's unacceptable across cultures is immaterial. Sentencing circle processes aren't "intended to preserve customs." Rather, they were redeveloped and inserted into the state legal system in response to its massive failure to achieve just treatment of Aboriginal people. Frigon's unexplained claims that Pauchay was acting "outside his cultural activities" and that he "no longer lives a traditional Aboriginal lifestyle" are beside the point.

His fears for law are also misguided. Sentencing circles, legislated by the government and affirmed by the Supreme Court, concern the method of sentencing, not the actual sentence. This isn't a "two-tiered punishment system" based on the "colour of a citizen's skin," but an attempt to address a systemically racist and ineffective response to Aboriginal offenders. It's about process, not outcome. In the end, it's only a recommendation. Fear not, Frigon; your state still has the power to send Aboriginal people to jail.

The aspersions Frigon casts on the circle itself are also misguided. There's no evidence that its members reached their decision because they were "only looking out for their own image and not for the sake of those who were hurt." Frigon ignores the fact they were the living people most hurt by the crime. He'd have us believe that he cares more about the victims than their relatives do. Nonsense. This self-righteous "defense" of justice doesn't justify his heaping insult upon injury, judging people and a situation he doesn't bother to understand or properly research.

To be fair, his piece illustrates a widespread frustration. There can be gaps between the rhetoric and reality of Aboriginal justice initiatives. The reasons behind legal decisions must be transparent if Canadians are going to understand what sentencing circles are and to accept their legitimacy. We need scholarship on these issues. Canadians also need to be willing to learn more than what Frigon offers.

JOHN DOUGLAS CROOKSHANKS
Graduate Studies

HADLEY FRIEDLAND
Law

Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca (no attachments, please).

The Gateway *reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous, or otherwise hateful in nature. The* Gateway *also reserves the right to publish letters online.*

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Letters can also be submitted via our online forms. The same letters policy applies.

Mandel's knife plan is dull



VICTOR VARGAS

Stephen Mandel's latest attempt to save the city from evil has led to knives going on the chopping block. In reaction to Edmonton's recent rash of stabbings, mayor Mandel has proposed the idea that Edmonton should ban long knives.

This action, the mayor believes, will put a stop to the epidemic, and save the city from the humiliation of becoming known as "Stabmonton." The truth, however, is that this is just another vain attempt by Mandel to remain squarely in denial.

On paper, his modest proposal is a relatively sound one—people plus knives equals stabbing, therefore if knives are removed from the equation, there will be less stabbings. And to the mayor's credit, this is an idea that has worked for other "problematic weapons" that have plagued humanity. Swords, cannons, and nukes are just a few of the many armaments whose use has been hampered by legal restrictions. But unlike these tools, knives are much more difficult to restrict.

Knives are unique among weapons because they serve many purposes other than killing. People constantly use knives to cut rope and cook, plus they're handy in survival kits—that makes it difficult to define what exactly constitutes a "long knife" and a "useful every day knife." Because really, when you compare the deadliness of a US Army Combat Knife and a meat cleaver, both are pretty bloody scary. And then there are short knives. Even though some blades, like swiss army knives, are short doesn't mean that they can't be used to stab someone to death.

The other problem is that even if the city discovers a way to effectively enforce restrictions on knives, people that are desperate enough to carry blades around will simply resort to other weapons. Baseball bats, sharpened screwdrivers, broken beer bottles, and other instruments will take their place.

Knives are only as harmful as the people holding them—and the main reason that they are resorting to shivs is because they can't afford guns. Pistols are restricted and cost hundreds of dollars, which has forced criminals into using knives. And if the city actually restricts blades, criminals will simply resort to other "shiny sharp stuff" along the lines of handheld ice picks.

This is the point that Mayor Mandel doesn't seem to grasp—our city's spearing problem is happening in part because our criminals can't afford guns to shoot each other with. Perhaps I'm taking a stab in the dark here, but maybe a good portion of the crime in this city isn't being caused by people's ready access to knives—it's because of the pathetic way in which the city deals with the poor.

When Edmonton had a tent city established by the homeless, our mayor had claimed that it was unnecessary, arguing that Edmonton had sufficient shelters for people to go to. Then, when panhandling became a problem in our municipality, our mayor refused to acknowledge that there were poor people in the city, and attempted to pass a bylaw to ticket panhandlers in order to solve the problem. Now, our town has criminals that are too poor to afford guns to shoot each other, so they have resorted to shanking each other, and his easy answer is to "simply" restrict access to knives.

It seems that mayor Mandel is willing to say and try and pass anything, so long as he can pretend that our municipality doesn't have a poverty problem. And unless he admits that there is a serious issue, the most useful thing that he can do as the mayor is give the city his resignation.

Evict Obama's mortgage bailout



ROBERT FRIGON

US President Barack Obama has taken it upon himself to read ten letters a day from his subjects, the American people. He seems to be listening, and that's the problem. After reading a plea from an Arizonian woman, he put the mortgage bailout for homeowners into action.

In his inauguration speech, Obama told Americans that tough choices will need to be made, and that the days of Americans living outside of their means were over. Yet he continues to bail out citizens and investors, protecting them from the error of their ways. His latest bailout idea will take tax dollars and use them to refinance personal mortgages for the next 18–24 months.

If they had won huge, they wouldn't have given a portion back to the public, but when it all goes belly up, they demand that the government owes them this money.

This misuse of funds will never sustain the housing markets, it will just make this downturn last longer. After taxpayers' bucks are used to reissue mortgages, the same pressures will still be there for homeowners. Their houses that were valued at $500 000 only a year ago are now valued at less than half of that, and the pressure to walk away from your home, no matter the rate on your mortgage, will still be felt. In the USA, when you hand the keys to your house back to the bank they can't come after your personal income, so it's cheaper for many to simply walk away and then re-buy them at bank auctions for a greatly reduced price. With pressures like these, throwing public money away on re-evaluating mortgages is nothing more then a ratings ploy by Obama.

Other than a cheap (not to taxpayers, that is) publicity stunt, all that this proposed plan will do is put money back in the pockets of the rich that chased huge returns from many C-rate borrowers. If they had won huge, they wouldn't have given a portion back to the public, but when it all goes belly up, they demand that the government owes them this money. These investors feel that the government is their personal insurer, even though they never paid any dues. They took risks well beyond their means, knowing it full well, yet still they feel that it's not their fault, but the peoples' instead.

After all is signed and done with, someone will have to cover the bill for this program. The US government won't be able to afford to print any more money and will have to go to the bond market and try to get the money out of foreigners to fund this program. In this way, they keep selling the US overseas. One day, when they come a knocking for their principal, either the citizens will have to bear the weight of this burden or sell even more of their country off. This isn't a better America: this will be some other president's problem far down the line.

Obama should stop this idea in its tracks. He was elected by the people to lead the people, but he shouldn't allow them to dictate *how* he leads. He must make the hard choices, stop lining the pockets of the rich chasing huge returns, and leave his children and America unriddled by debt. Dropping five per cent in the public ratings shouldn't cause him to compromise what's right for a little more popularity. President Obama instead needs to lead his people to a strong and unified America.

The sad thing is that after all this money is spent, those who it's supposed to benefit will be worse off, left without their homes, and to carry the burden of even further debt.

STUDENT HEALTH PLAN REFERENDUM

Students will vote on the following referendum and plebiscite question on the ballot in the March 4 and 5 students' union election:

Do you support the establishment of an undergraduate health and dental plan as of the Fall semester of 2009, subject to the following conditions:

1. Students have the ability to opt out of the health and/or dental plan;
2. The health and dental plan would cost each student $192.34 per year for the 2009/2010 and 2010/2011 academic year, said fee being assessed by the University with tuition and other non-academic fees;
3. That in subsequent years, any increase or decrease in the cost of the plan will be subject to approval by Students' Council;
4. That the SU Executive be authorized to enter into the necessary contractual agreements with Studentcare.net/works contingent upon the inclusion of acceptable transparency and accountability provisions;
5. That a fee for the undergraduate health and dental plan would continue to be assessed until;
 a) A duly constituted SU referendum is conducted to rescind the fee and program; or,
 b) Such a time that Studentcare.net/works terminates the agreement.

STUDENTS' UNION

vote www.su.ualberta.ca/vote

For more information about how to register as a member of a plebiscite or referendum side, please email the Chief Returning Officer at cro@su.ualberta.ca

Regardless of their innocent chirping, birds of a feather spy on me together



CONAL PIERSE

"While a normal child would simply watch for the prying eyes of an adult and, seeing none, would happily shoot rocks at squirrels, light firecrackers, or construct dangerous weapons from garage materials, I would be watching the trees. And everywhere I went, spies."

My sister is terrified of birds. She saw Alfred Hitchcock's *The Birds* as a child, and ever since has been petrified of them. To this day, she can't help but shudder when she comes into close contact with them. Some things from your childhood just stick with you, I guess. Myself, I hate birds for an entirely different reason.

In later years I have justified my dislike of avian creatures based on the ill-tempered few that I have encountered at the houses of friends and family. Personally, I think that it would be quite impossible to find a bird of good nature on account of how they're kept—any animal with the freedom of wings must resent a cage entirely. But despite the long-since-healed bite marks on my fingers when my curiosity put me within striking range of a small, malicious beak, I hate them because of my father.

I must admit that I got into my fair share of trouble, as all children do. Mischief made the days fun, and boredom in a six-year-old is the root of all evil. However, whereas other children's parents learned of their bad behaviour through teachers, neighbours, or anyone else in the vast army of adults charged with watching them, my father learned everything from birds.

Whenever I was in trouble, I would arrive home to find him quietly sitting at the dinner table, and after a few moments of quiet judgement, he'd turn to me and ask "do you know what a little birdie told me today?"

No matter what I had done, or where it happened, my father had learned this intimate fact about my life from a tiny, feathered spy, perched in a nearby tree or windowsill, watching my every move. Even the times that I was sure that a teacher had called my house, a bird somehow got to him first, relaying my crime in sweet little chirps.

I hated birds for that.

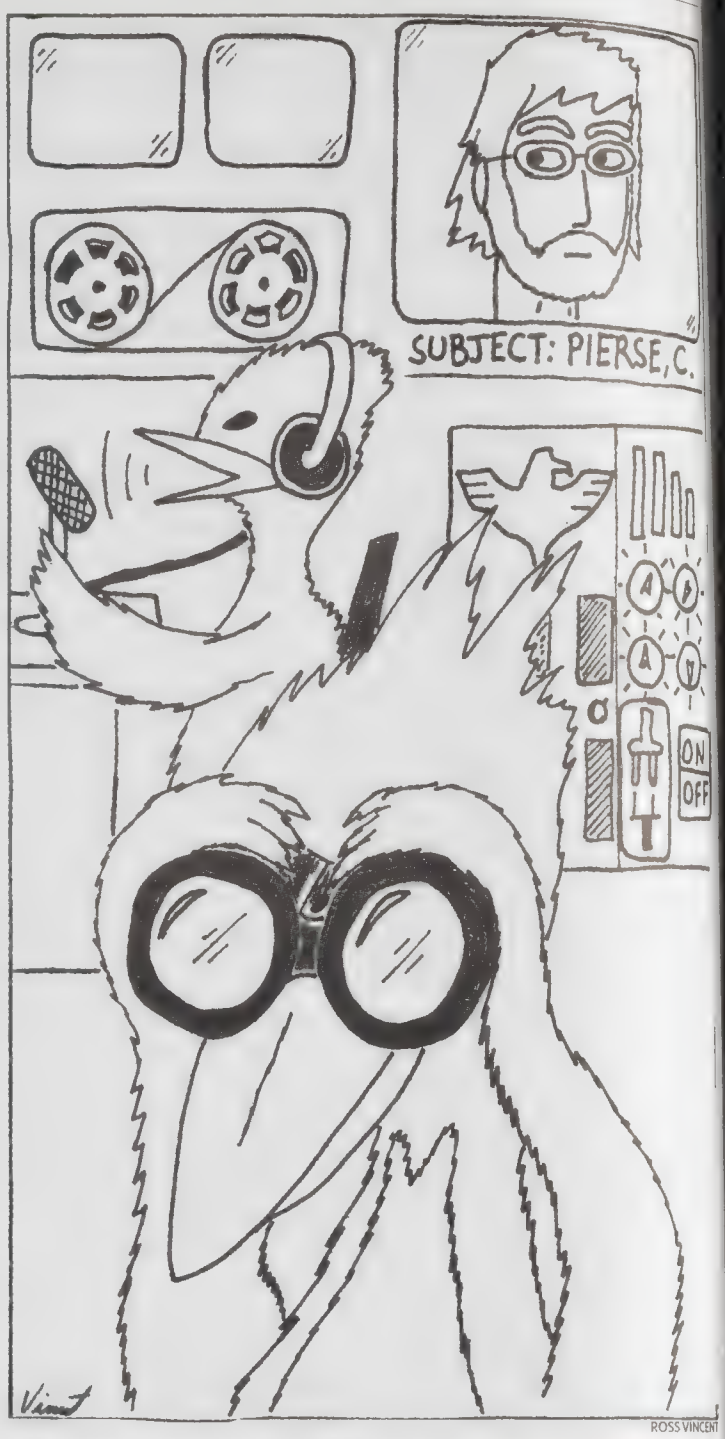
This made committing various misdemeanors with my brother or friends all the more stressful for me. While a normal child would simply watch for the prying eyes of an adult and, seeing none, would happily shoot rocks at squirrels, light firecrackers, or construct dangerous weapons from garage materials, I would be watching the trees. And everywhere I went, spies.

Small, innocuous, traitors, watching me with their beady eyes and chirping about me in some hidden tongue. My morning walks to school were full of chickadee's cries of "I'm watching you," and robins twittering about how my shoes weren't properly tied—or, on one occasion, how I wasn't wearing any.

I've told myself before that I won't lie to my children in such a fashion. That they won't have to fear having the wind change, leaving them horribly disfigured, their faces frozen in a permanent, cock-eyed sneer.

I will give them both truthful and helpful suggestions, instead of instilling their young minds with fear. When I don't understand or know the answer to a question, I'll look it up, rather than creatively lying or calling it magic, because you never know how much they'll take literally—what will stick with them for a lifetime.

Though a mirror has reassured me that there's no black spot lingering on my tongue after a lie, I still avoid stepping on cracks in the sidewalk, I sit as far back as possible from the television, and I still loathe birds. It's childish, I know, but I take solace in the fact that I didn't pay any mind to those certain "sins" that would send me "straight to hell."



ROSS VINCENT

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Campaigning translated to theatre

Our candidates gave their best performances at the Quick and Dirty Festival



DAVID JOHNSTON

The Quick and Dirty Festival is an annual event held by the Drama Department where students can sign up for a 15-minute performance slot. They are then given a stage in the Timms Centre's Second Playing Space and perform for the audience in a manner that is, well, quick and dirty. Highlights from night one this year included musical numbers, poetry reading, luchador makeouts, and improv comedy. The verdict: us drama students are very weird.

I tell you all of this because this year, the festival fell during the SU campaigns, which inevitably meant that almost all of the candidates showed up Tuesday night and took the stage by storm in a series of minute-and-a-half *impassione*. As I am nothing if not a reputable journalist, I quickly started recording their comments for posterity. Here are the various ways in which the SU candidates appealed to 40-odd quirky drama students—note the clever methodologies.

Sporting the finest Restricted Access scarf, Jesse Hahn opened the session with "I don't know what the drama department wants." He ended with suggesting that we all leave and go watch the engineers do open-mic night. Presumably in between, he decided that this was what the drama department wanted.

Kory Mathewson used his time to read a list of 16 things he resolved that he shouldn't do while on the campaign trail. Highlights included "release a sex tape," "change relationship status on Facebook," and "buy too much paint." Then he fainted in a professor's arms—as we all do from time to time.

Trying to top the previous act, Justin VannPashak opened with "I feel really low-confidence," which got him a big cheer, because hey, we're theatre people. He then mentioned how he wouldn't bore us with the details of his science-based degree. Probably a smart choice.

Here are the various ways in which the SU candidates appealed to 40-odd quirky drama students—note the clever methodologies.

Craig Turner was overshadowed for the first half of his speech by a shouting match involving Kory Mathewson's girlfriend. After that died down, he stated his intentions to get the SU out of SUB. Bets are that he doesn't intend to move it into the Second Playing Space.

Beverly Eastham, on the other hand, realized that she was speaking to a crowd of drama students and first called us awesome, secondly told us that we needed funding, and thirdly stated how easy we were to talk to. Beverley Eastham certainly knows her audience.

Quoth Mustapha Makhdoom: "You are all drama students. You know what that reminds me of? Theatre. You know what that reminds me of? Shakespeare. You know what that reminds me of?" This, of course, eventually led to a hilarious anecdote involving a Star Trek/Star Wars crossover called "Revenge of the Clones." Okay.

Ian Clarke opted to establish street cred by mentioning his drama student friend (*a la* "my girlfriend who lives in Canada") before once again telling us how awesome we are. He then told us how the U-Pass is in peril and how he will save it. Huge cheers from the penniless actor side of the house.

Nick Dehod spent the first 40 seconds calling up at to the tech booth asking for a spotlight before launching into a syllable-perfect obscure monologue from *Hamlet*. One wonders if when campaigning for the Phys Ed students, he opens by doing 30 squat-thrusts. He had to be reminded to state his name and position.

Ah, the wit of Leah Trueblood. "I am notoriously neither quick nor dirty." The unopposed VP (Academic) spent her minute and a half telling that joke about the bear who walked into the bar. This somehow related to her platform.

The Yes for Health Plan position was also represented with a joke—this one about actors breaking legs. Again, penniless actors cheered.

Aden Murphy rounded up the group by trying to find his positioning in the spotlight, getting into a jovial argument with one of the MFA students, and ended with "Go back to your show, because it's awesome."

So there you have it: the condensed SU platforms, drama-styled. Of course, the only ones who are going to get votes were the four who stuck around for the rest of the festival to watch all the weirdness. Bonus points will go to those who'll return Thursday night at 7pm for the final night of Quick and Dirty—which should include all of you. Who knows? You might even hear the punchline to the joke about the bear who walked into the bar.

Making sense out of election buzzwords



JONN KMECH

"First up is a mainstay of any election campaign: 'advocacy.' This appears to be a portmanteau of 'advertising' and 'vocal.' So essentially, anyone advocating advocacy is really just supporting those loud, made-for-TV infomercials plugged on late night television."

As you may have noticed in the past few days, some kind of political event is taking place on campus. A rally perhaps, or a town forum. Oh right—it's already March, and SU Elections are upon us once again. Every year, fresh-faced hopefuls slap together posters and pamphlets in an attempt to garner your vote. If you peruse those posters for more than the standard one second that most people take as they're walking by, you may begin to think that you're experiencing deja vu. I'm talking, of course, about election buzzwords.

Luckily for you, I'm here to give you the rundown of this political jargon so that you understand the main points that all the candidates are running on. By tearing apart these strings of letters in a way that only grammarians and wordsmiths can possibly comprehend, I'll turn meaningless nonsense into discernible coherence. The majority of election buzzwords can be understood by breaking them into their smaller parts.

First up is a mainstay of any election campaign: "advocacy." This appears to be a portmanteau of "advertising" and "vocal." So essentially, anyone advocating advocacy is really just supporting those loud, made-for-TV infomercials plugged on late night television. When a candidate implores that the SU demand greater advocacy from the government, they're actually channeling that greasy guy's plug for the ShamWow. Those guys advocate their products with vim and vigour, so you can be sure that any candidate who wishes to advocate for students wants to do so with at least as much fire as Billy Mays has for OxyClean.

Next up on the docket is "accountability." It seems that every candidate and his campaign manager wants to make either the University or the SU accountable. There are two ways to look at this: they're either demanding that the University pays its taxes, or they're trying to bolster school "countability" by bringing our standards of arithmetic up to at least a Grade 5 level. Either way, neither of these issues really has to do with the Students' Union, so if you're voting for a candidate running on a fingermath platform, it'd be wise to vote for NOTA.

You may also see the word "tuition" everywhere, particularly in the context of how everyone wants to decrease it. The word looks quite a bit like the word "intuition," in the sense that they're reciprocals. Thus, as tuition goes up, intuition goes down. So decreasing tuition is the same as raising intuition—an admirable trait, and one that you should vote for by marking off everyone's name on the ballot since they all wish to do so.

Then there's "empowerment," the idiot stepchild of buzzwords. Seriously, what does empowering students mean, really?

And finally, we come to "affordability." The ability to afford. I guess that one's pretty self-explanatory, actually.

I hope that you've learned something valuable from this deconstruction of election buzzwords. Hopefully thanks to this handy guide, when you see them, you'll realize that they're not just vacant platitudes trotted out repeatedly by candidates in an attempt to sound more relevant and losing all inherent meaning in the process. These words are the very foundation that our students' democracy is built on.



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Edmonton-Strathcona
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Alberta

SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

Shakespeare on Screen: Prospero's Book

Directed by Peter Greenaway
Starring John Gielgud, Michael Clark, and Mark Rylance
Thursday, 26 February at 7pm
Metro Cinema (9828-101A Ave)

Not your typical movie rendition of Shakespeare's final play *The Tempest*, the 1991 film by Peter Greenaway *Prospero's Book* finds itself on the avant garde side of the fence. It features the now 80-year-old John Gielgud—one of the 20th century's most celebrated Shakespearian actors—as Prospero and the voices of all other characters.

This adaptation of the play features dream-like ballet sequences complete with writhing nudes, early '90s computer animation, and the lush music of Michael Nyman.

The Vagina Monologues

Saturday, 28 February at 8pm
Jubilee Auditorium (11455-87 Ave)
Tickets $46 at ticketmaster.ca or Jubilee box office

You may snicker childishly at its name, but behind all the talk of hoo-hoos and female masturbation, the *Vagina Monologues* holds a serious and worthwhile message for both men and women. The *Monologues* have been a lightning rod for advocates of women's sexual rights, preaching about the abuses women suffer in our society while remaining unafraid to crack a joke.

This rendition of the Monologues is sponsored by the Gateway Association for Community Living and will feature City TV's Bridget Ryan, Sonic Radio's Liann Cameron, and Councillor Kim Krushell, among others. Proceeds will go towards funding a collaborative initiative against the abuse of women with developmental disabilities run by the Gateway Association and Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton.

Race For Dignity

Saturday, 28 February at 9am
SUB stage
Free

What's cooler than doing something to fight AIDS? Not much, but if you bail on the Race for Dignity, the SUs twelve hour bike-a-thon fundraiser, you should be a little more worried about everyone thinking you love AIDS. You don't love AIDS, do you?

Register either yourself or a team online at www.ualberta.ca/~dignitas to help fight AIDS, combat obesity, or just promote the fact that showering can't replace a good condom.

Steal This Film Parts I and II

Directed by the League of Noble Peers
Sunday, 1 March at 12pm
Metro Cinema (9828-101A Ave)

Admit it, you illegally download. It's just too easy, and unless you've held out by some miracle of outstanding moral fiber, it's a reality of how a lot of people get their music, movies, and software these days.

Steal This Film looks to engage its audience on the moral questions we need to be asking ourselves about the filesharing movement. Although its directors might be a little biased—the film is being downloaded to the theatre using Bittorrent and screened using open source software—they're sure to throw an ethical curveball to those on either side of the debate.

SEAN STEELS
What have you done for me lately?



Reintegration into the spotlight

It's been three years since Shout Out Out Out Out released an album, but Nik Kozub has been busy

musicpreview

Shout Out Out Out Out

Album Release Party
With The Hues, Dusty Grooves, and All Out DJs
Saturday, 28 February at 9pm and Sunday, 1 March at 9pm
Starlite Room (10030-102 St)
Saturday: Sold Out, Sunday: $15 at ticketmaster.ca, Foosh, Blackbyrd, and Listen

SEAN STEELS
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Talk about the hard work that goes into a new album and most peoples' minds jump to fantasies of rubbing shoulders with record execs, partying with strippers, and mountains of blow. But Nik Kozub has a slightly different picture to paint.

His band Shout Out Out Out Out is on the cusp of releasing their second studio album, *Reintegration Time*, and in the flurry of writing and distributing the disc on their own label Nrmls Wlcm Records, free time hasn't been pencilled into their schedules much.

"We've been extremely busy. I've been doing a lot of coordination up until now getting artwork ready, putting in the orders for the actual hard copies of the CD and the vinyl version of the album," Kozub laughs when asked what's been on his plate lately.

His current frenetic state isn't helped by SO4's penchant for collaboration. Rapper Cadence Weapon added some urban flavour to the record, which Kozub says was a welcome addition despite being another item on his to-do list. And a busy recording schedule with other local Edmonton artists signed to Nrmls Wlcm has kept him in the studio as much with other bands as his own.

Reintegration Time will also be SO4's first album release in the United States, adding another challenge to Kozub's laundry list of marketing and promotional challenges.

"We have played a fair amount in the US already, but being released there will be a little like starting back at square one in terms of promoting ourselves," he concedes.

In the whirlwind of a full North American release, he also admits that the group's schedule has been hectic, leaving them pressed for practice time.

"We've been rehearsing like crazy trying to get ready for our shows. A lot of material on the new album we haven't played a lot yet in a live setting, so we've been spending a lot of time working out the logistics of how to play all these crazy synth parts at once." he says with exasperation.

> **"Taking three years since our last album was something we really didn't mean to do. I guess we just didn't really know that anyone would care about the first album and it took all of us by surprise."**
>
> **NIK KOZUB**
> VOCALIST/BASSIST, SHOUT OUT OUT OUT OUT

Kozub feels that the group's success on their debut album *Not Saying/Just Saying* and the intensive three years of promotion and touring since then has bought them some room to breathe. The album received a Juno nomination in 2007, and, although they lost, the press bolstered them from college radio to mainstream recognition.

"Taking three years since our last album was something we really didn't mean to do. I guess we just didn't really know that anyone would care about the first album and it took all of us by surprise," says Kozub. "From here on we're trying to take a more proactive approach to keeping up with the song writing and recording process. We want to try and get another EP done within the next year or so to keep the ball rolling. We want to make sure we don't get swept up again and lose track of the creative process."

Even with all the preparations and distractions that have plagued *Reintegration Time*'s recording process, Kozub is adamant that the band's music hasn't been affected-a worry amongst fans impatient for a followup of the group's 2006 debut. In fact, he maintains that their techno-rock sound—which does the genre-divided aisles of record stores no favours—has been further refined in the three-year wait.

"When we started, we were trying to evolve into doing dance music. But we all come from a punk rock background and no matter what we do we'll always have that element. Even if we play tech-house, we still sound like a rock band. We've worked hard to make dance music more accessible to rock fans," Kozub explains. "I think the new album is actually moving towards that original vision where we want to be and we're really into having a lot of dance and synth textures and pulsing beats, more so than just straight up hard banging stuff."

But the confidence of a newly minted album doesn't dispel all fears and after such a long gestation period, the worries about fan reception still nag Kozub, who admits that it's hard to arrive at the culmination of so much work without a little trepidation.

"It's always weird when you spend a lot of time on a project and the band is really internally excited about all the work you've put in on it. It's still a weird feeling putting out records, and knowing that everyone will have their opinions is always nerve wracking," Kozub concludes.

"There's always a little bit of anticipation factor that's hard to describe and it's hard to take when other people don't get it. Hopefully it's going to be a positive thing, and that's all you can really hope for."



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OPENS IN THEATRES EVERYWHERE MARCH 6, 2009



Expanse not putting audiences in a corner

The annual dance festival wants to turn their viewers into maniacs on the floor

dancepreview

Expanse Movement Arts Festival
26 February–1 March
Roxy Theatre (10708–124 St)
Festival Passes $70, Individual shows $15 at The Roxy Box Office

DAVID JOHNSTON
Arts & Entertainment staff

Dance can seem elitist at times—the ritualistic nature of the performances and trained observance of silent movement often comes across as inaccessible in a way that traditional theatre or music might not. The Expanse Movement Arts Festival, however, has always sought to return dancing to the people. Seeing that they're in their fifth year, they're obviously onto something—evidently people like to dance.

"I know one goal that we always have is that audience members have a huge chance to participate in as much of the festival as they can," notes Amber Borotsik, the festival director. "They can come in and take workshops, they can dance on the Roxy stage with the dancers, and they can come in and get sweaty for themselves."

This mandate is probably best represented by Borotsik's opening-night signature event.

"I always call it the 'audience-dancetravaganza,'" she grins. This'll be the second year for the opening-night party, but it's grown by leaps and bounds since its first conception as an improvised 45-second audience mob of the stage. This time around, it's expanded into a pair of simultaneous dance-offs, both for regular audience and those brave enough to weather the streets of Edmonton.

"We have two crews. The indoor crew is going to be dancing on the stage," Botostik clarifies, "And the outdoor crew is going to be whatever crazy folks just want to dance down 124th street [with us]. So just take your iPod, your MP3 players—we're going to have a big group just dancing down the street. If you want to watch crazy people dancing around or you want to join in the madness, you can do both."

The dancetravaganza kicks off at 7pm on 26 February. Though it represents one of the main audience interaction portions, there are a series of pay-what-you-can workshops throughout the week, including one with Vienna-trained instructor Geha Gauthier that aims to make yoga accessible to all.

Of course, there's plenty of professional dancing to watch too—veterans like Tracy Friesen, who's returning to Edmonton for her world premiere of *Bonding*, or recent U of A grads Richard Lee and Cole Humeny premiering their stereotype-questioning *ManDance*. Companies will be coming in from Toronto, Calgary, and the United Kingdom for the festival, and of the 13 companies presenting, there will be ten world premieres, a number that delights Borotsik to no end.

"I'm just super passionate about this type of work," she says. "About contemporary dance and contemporary ideas, and that it's so open to so many types of people in this program. We have all types of body-based arts in the festival. There's dance, dance theatre, performance art, dance-film, all different types of stuff that the festival does.

"What's really exciting is it brings together artists who have a bunch of different disciplines. It creates a really explosive environment where you can meet new people or see types of work that perhaps you'd never seen before."

And, presumably, get your groove on while doing so.

cjsr FM88 albumcharts
FOR THE WEEK ENDING
TUESDAY, 24 FEBRUARY

1. **THE GRUESOMES**
Gruesomania
(Ricochet Sound)

2. **FORTY THIEVES**
Forty Thieves
(Independent)

3. **RED RAM**
Land of Dreams
(Independent)

4. **THE STOLEN MINKS**
High Kicks
(New Romance For Kids)

5. **MICHAEL RAULT**
Crash! Bang! Boom!
(Chickadee)

6. **JAY AND THE BARN FLYZ**
Songs For My Seaweed Girl
(Happy Baby)

7. **HOT PANDA**
Volcano ... Bloody Volcano
(Mint)

8. **GIFT EATERS**
We Haunt The Homes We Keep
(Independent)

9. **HANK**
The Luck Of The Singers
(Blocks Recording Club)

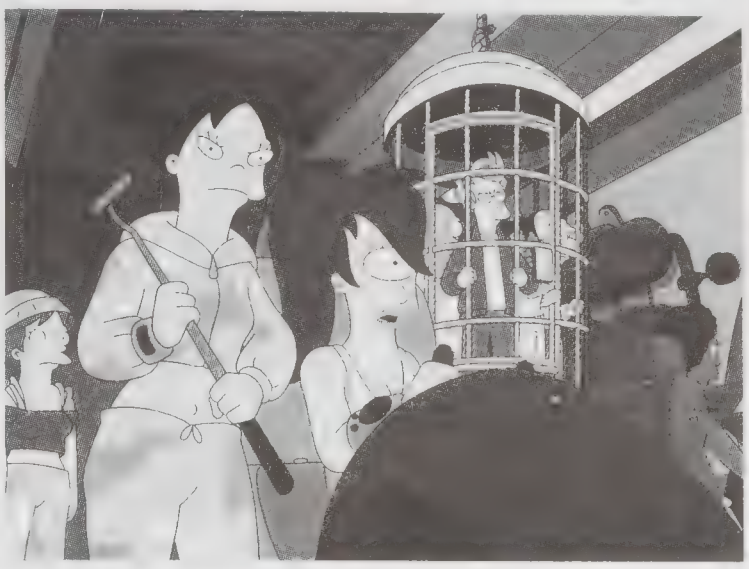
10. **CRIPPLE CREEK FAIRIES**
War Amps
(Catch & Release)

Condemned by the Space Pope

The fourth *Futurama* film causes the series to fade away rather than burn out

filmreview

Futurama: Into The Wild Green Yonder
Directed by Peter Avanzino
Written by Matt Groening
Starring Billy West, Katey Sagal, and John Di Maggio
Now Available on DVD



AARON YEO

Environmental affairs are ubiquitous in the 21st century. The state of global warming, the oil sands, forest logging, and more are damn near platitudes. Fast forward a thousand years from now, and things might not be much different. The fourth and final feature-length film of the Futurama franchise, *Into the Wild Green Yonder*, revolves around 31st century environmental concerns.

After the complex yet flawless plot of the first installment, *Bender's Big Score*, it seemed impossible to make a worthy sequel, let alone to top it three more times. The first movie wrapped up the loose ends of the Futurama series, effortlessly tying in many unfinished bits and pieces into a well-written and entertaining storyline.

Unfortunately, the subsequent films became more ridiculous and non-sequitur, using increasingly absurd situations in a weak attempt to consider themselves part of the larger canon. The fourth movie seems to continue this trend.

Amy's father Mr Wong plays a central role as your typical multi billionaire magnate-cum-villain. After building a new-and-improved Mars Vegas, he becomes intent on destroying twelve per cent of the Milky Way to clear space for his next project: a somewhat-oversized miniature golf course, with the first hole being a mere 6 billion mile par two. And, much like in today's world, such a venture stirs up a lot of trouble with environmentalists.

Enter the Greenorita Eco-Feminist Collective, a radical organization who's members put less effort into saving the environment than they do creating lame slogans and puns so intentionally bad that you hate yourself for laughing at them.

Meanwhile, through an awkward series of events, Fry is given the power to read minds, and is soon picked up by a secret society that's working to stop an evil force from eliminating all life in the Universe. Of course, this eventually ends up intertwining with Mr Wong's scheme. The lovable Planet Express crew is drawn into the middle of all of this, and soon the fate of the Universe is literally in Fry's greasy hands (again).

From the get-go, the premise for the film is full of confusing holes, and there's plenty more clumsy writing and several *deus ex machina* to follow. However, *Into the Wild Green Yonder* makes a decent attempt at redeeming its feeble storyline through the use of straightforward comedy.

Like any *Futurama* episode, the writers filled the film with humorous bits and pieces ranging from pop culture mentions to not-so-obvious science and math references. Cameos are subtle but frequent, making for some reasonable replay value. Any *Futurama* fan is sure to enjoy spotting "that one guy from that one episode." In addition, there are plenty of sight gags, running jokes, and one-liners that elicit chuckles from beginning to end.

As well, the production quality is at an all-time high. In spite of the two-dimensional animation style, there are some stunning visuals that can really only be effected in a cartoon set in outer space. All the original voice actors are still at the top of their game and there are even a few scenes that border on tear-jerking.

But sadly, comedic buckshot and fancy visuals can only hide an empty core for so long. The 90 minute movie winds up being more akin to a very long episode than a quality feature film. A few hundred snippets of comedy loosely strung together on a weak plot doesn't warrant much attention, and it's almost shameful as to where Matt Groening has taken the series from its pinnacle. It's still very unclear what the future for the *Futurama* series is, but *Into the Wild Green Yonder* makes for a rather insipid finale.

Hollywood Nazis not what they use to be



ALEXANDER WITT
A&E Commentary

When Marion Cotillard congratulated Kate Winslet on pushing "the boundaries of what's possible" at the 2009 Academy Awards, I thought it could be unintentionally taken to mean that Winslet pushed the boundaries of what's possible by pulling off an Auschwitz death-camp guard that actually evokes sympathy. Then I tried to think of what Cotillard actually meant about Winslet's acting in *The Reader*.

The only elaboration Cotillard gave us was that Winslet's performance in *The Reader* comprised "the qualities that have always drawn [audiences to Winslet]: passion, vulnerability, and extraordinary depth." Then I realized that those words meant exactly what I thought they unintentionally did: Winslet, you made us pity a Nazi. For her efforts, the Academy gave her an Oscar.

Winslet washes her hands of any responsibility for how people respond to her film and presumably also for how people congratulate her. After she won her Oscar, she told the press: "I was very aware that if an audience did feel any level of sympathy for [her character] Hannah, and they felt morally compromised as a consequence, that would be an interesting emotion for them to then deal with."

Maybe Hollywood has decided that it's time for audiences to see another side of the Nazis. It has been 70 years since the 1939 film *Confessions of a Nazi Spy*, the first American-made movie about Nazis who were trying to steal military secrets. Since then, Nazis have come to symbolize one-dimensional evil—an enemy that everyone can agree upon. We feel best about them when we're watching them being killed.

The first blockbuster efforts to re-win WWII were grand affairs about military history—like 1965's *The Battle of the Bulge*—but not long afterwards, studios realized that Nazi killing didn't need to be in the context of a historical re-enactment to be fun. The 1968 Clint Eastwood blockbuster *Where Eagles Dare* is a great example. Audiences know that Nazis are bad, so when they're machine-gunned in droves, no one feels the worse for it.

I wasn't alive to witness the watershed moment when Nazis became Hollywood's go-to bad guys in hundreds of films. But they've been used and abused all of my life, from *Raiders of the Lost Ark* to last year's worst-film-ever, *The Spirit*. They have been lampooned in *The Producers* and been recruited as the most implausible bad guys ever in *The Sum of All Fears*.

There certainly have been positive portrayals of WWII-era Germans in Hollywood movies. There have been important figures like Oscar Schindler in *Schindler's List* and Claus von Stauffenberg in last year's *Valkyrie*. There have been chivalrous Nazis such as Ed Harris in *Enemy at the Gates* and most of the German U-boat crew in *U-571*. But all of these characters had at least some distance from the absolutely evil aspects of the Nazis: the death camps.

That's why Winslet's win for *The Reader* is a watershed moment in Hollywood movies. Some commentators have called it boring and inappropriate, but I saw it the day before the Academy Awards and thought it a well-realized film. The sadness it evoked kept growing in me long after the words went up.

The act of giving Winslet an Oscar for her performance is tantamount to the US entertainment establishment saying it's time to stop looking at Nazis as mere cannon fodder; they were human too. There will always be more WWII shoot-em-up movies. But I expect after Winslet's performance in *The Reader*, we'll see more Nazi protagonists and more morally compromising feelings as well.

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- Muhammad Ali

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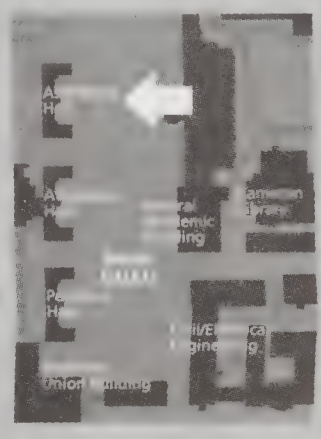
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Volley-Bears set to host nationals

NICK FROST

Having already wrapped up an undefeated season and conquered the best in Canada West, the Golden Bears volleyball team will look to make it a perfect year this weekend at the Main Gym when the team hosts the 2009 CIS Men's Volleyball Championship. Teams from coast to coast will converge on Edmonton from Friday to Saturday, with many of their familiar foes slated to compete in the opening-round quarterfinals on Friday night.

One of the immediate challenges that plagues Alberta head coach Terry Danyluk in preparation for this weekend, however, is that his players will compete against squads travelling to the national tournament that they've never stepped onto a court with before and, thus, could be caught off-guard come game time. According to the Bears bench boss, though, with the amount of exhibition play that his team saw this season, he's confident that they're already well-suited to face any given opponent.

"The reason we do games like the Can-Am tourney and going to the United States to play teams that we don't know is so that we have some opportunity to play teams on short notice," Danyluk explained. "You focus on yourselves and then you adapt to them, if need be, and get to know enough about them that you start to figure out, 'hey, this is maybe how we want to play certain teams.' "

Alberta's first-round challenge comes in the form of the University of New Brunswick Varsity Reds (8–10 regular season, 0–2 playoffs.) Despite this maiden voyage to the CIS Championship for everyone currently involved in the program, and regardless of what their absence of fifth-years might indicate about a lack of experience, the Reds still sport one of the biggest on-court presences in Canada and will certainly pose a challenge to the Bears at the net.

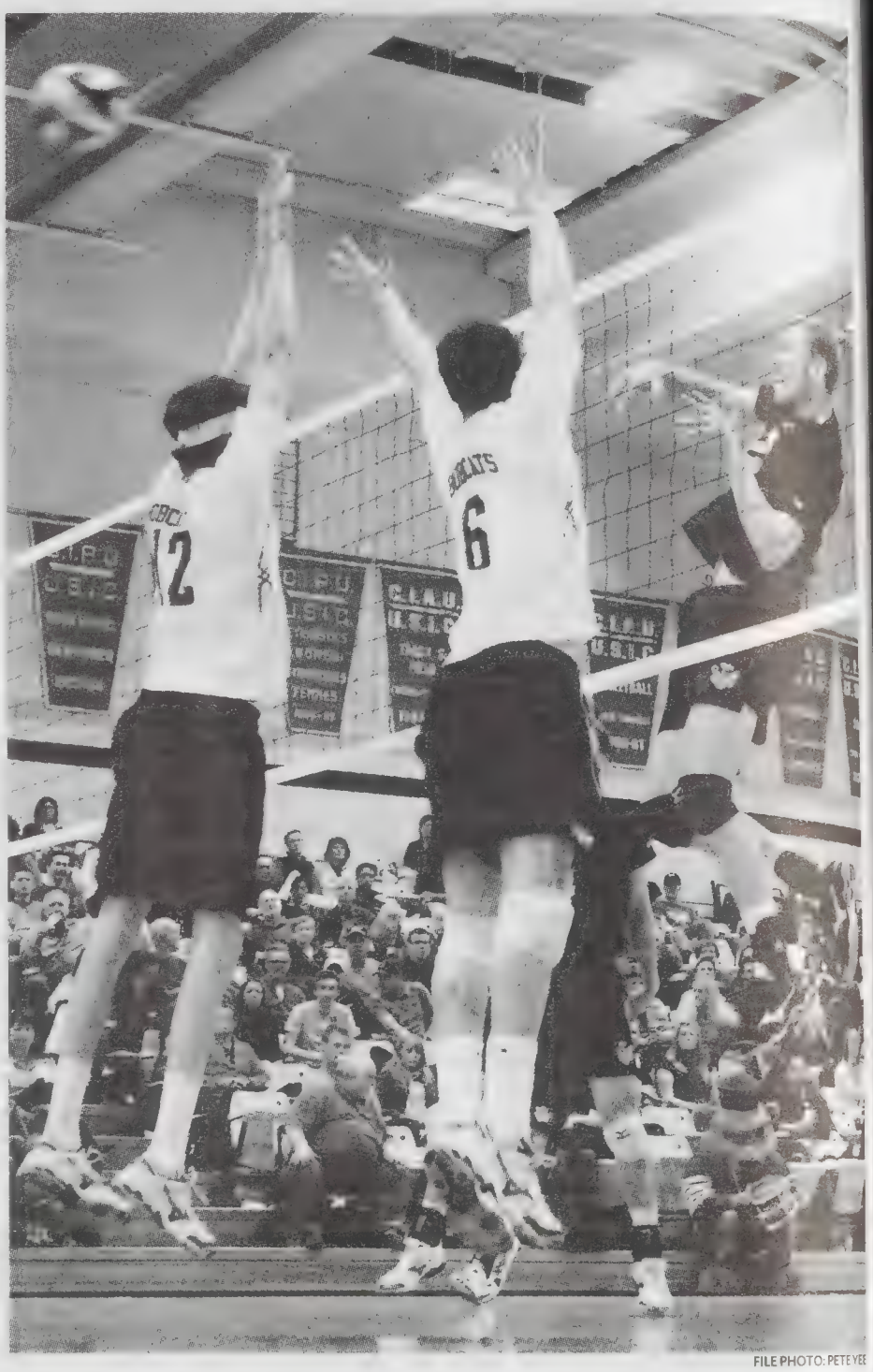
"For New Brunswick, this is their first trip to the national championship and I know they're a big, physical team and, height-wise, they match up with just about anybody in the country—maybe even be bigger than some of the teams that are going to be here size-wise," Danyluk said.

"I haven't had a chance to see them play yet, though, so that's the undetermined factor. I think they're going to have a lot of fun being here and anytime you do something the first time, you know what it's like—first time you date somebody, first time you kiss somebody; it's all the same, but it's exciting, and new, and fun."

One advantage that the Bears will have the luxury throughout the entire three-day tournament is the hometown crowd. But while having family and friends in the crowd will provide a surge of energy for the players, it's the team's consensus that—no matter which gym they were to play in—rocking the gold medal on Sunday is all that's really relevant about this weekend.

"I don't think it'd be any different to win it at home or win it away—you're playing for a championship," Danyluk remarked. "The nicety is that, if it does happen at home, you have more people to celebrate with. That's the biggest difference—you've got more close friends. As far as what it means to win, I think the victory at home or away would be the same, but I think it's the people that it touches that's the biggest difference."

Alberta's first match of the CIS Championship goes at 6:30pm on Friday night at the Main Gym, while the bronze and gold medal matches are scheduled for 3pm and 5pm, respectively, on Sunday afternoon.



FILE PHOTO: PETE YEE

WHEN I'M UP, I CAN'T GET DOWN Alberta's Justin Merta leaps to finish the kill against the Bobcats

TALE OF THE TAPE: THE REMAINING EIGHT

Compiled by Matt Pretty

Alberta Golden Bears 1

Playoff Finish: Canada West Champions
Record: 18-0 regular season, 2-0 playoffs
CIS Championships: 5 (1981, 1997, 2002, 2005, 2008)
Last tournament appearance: 2008 (first place)

Alberta has a 25-game win streak going against CIS opponents, led by Canada West MVP Joel Schmuland and All-Stars Tim Gourlay and Mike DeRocco. Sophomore Spencer Leiske, meanwhile, leads CIS with 1.28 blocks per game The Bears have played in the last seven national finals and are hosting for the first time since 2002/03

Laval Rouge et Or 2

Playoff Finish: Quebec Champions
Record: 18-0 regular season, 2-0 playoffs
CIS Championships: 3 (1990, 1992, 1994)
Last tournament appearance: 2008 (sixth place)

This will be Laval's twelfth straight national tournament appearance, led by head coach Pascal Clement, who was part of the last championship Rouge et Or squad in 1994. Laval finished 4-0 in exhibition matches this year against Canada West teams and boast two First-Team Quebec All-Stars and three Second-Team Quebec All-Stars, despite being a relatively young team

McMaster Marauders 3

Playoff Finish: OUA Champions
Record: 17-3 regular season, 3-0 playoffs
CIS Championships: none
Last tournament appearance: 2008 (seventh place)

McMaster makes their fourth straight national tournament appearance, but have never finished higher than fifth (1991). The Marauders went 6-1 vs Canada West in exhibition this year and have three OUA First-Team All-Stars, including brothers Jeremy and Nathan Groenveld, and OUA volleyball student-athlete of the year Peter Hrkal

Brandon Bobcats 4

Playoff Finish: Canada West silver medalists
Record: 10-8 regular season, 3-1 playoffs
CIS Championships: none
Last tournament appearance: first appea

Brandon is a locally oriented team with six
sons on their roster; however, they also ha
players from Melbourne, Australia, inclu
West First-Team All-Star Paul Sanderso
Aussie leads the conference and the count
6.48 points per game and leads Canada
5.23 kills per game.

Dalhousie Tigers 5

Playoff Finish: AUS Champions
Record: 16-2 regular season, 2-0 playoffs
CIS Championships: none
Last tournament appearance: 2008 (fourth place)

The Tigers are undoubtedly the dynasty of AUS volleyball, making their 30th straight nationals appearance. Dalhousie's best finish was a silver medal in 1997 and they will no doubt continue their success with no graduating players this year. 6'10" middle Max Burt was named a conference First-Team All-Star, along with Sander Ratsep and Dan Murray.

Thompson Rivers Wolf Pack 6

Playoff Finish: Canada West bronze medalists
Record: 10-8 regular season, 3-2 playoffs
CIS Championships: none
Last tournament appearance: 2008 (third place)

TRU has only been in CIS for four years and have risen to the top very quickly, making their second straight nationals appearance. The Pack have no fifth-year players and only one fourth-year: outside hitter Andy Haley. Middle Gord Perrin was a Canada West Second-
am All-Star and ex-Golden Bear Robin Anders is now playing for the Pack in his hometown of Kamloops.

Winnipeg Wesmen 7

Playoff Finish: Canada West fourth-place
Record: 10-8 regular season, 2-3 playoffs
CIS Championships: 10 (1969, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974 1977, 1986, 1987, 1998, 2007)
Last tournament appearance: 2008 (second place)

This is the third-straight appearance at the national tournament for the Wesmen, and they're tied with Manitoba for the title of most decorated program in CIS with ten Tantramar Trophies. The Wesmen have met Alberta in the national final in each of the last two years, splitting the two matches.

New Brunswick Varsity Reds 8

Playoff Finish: AUS finalists
Record: 8-10 regular season, 0-2 playoffs
CIS Championships: none
Last tournament appearance: 1979

This will be UNB's first trip back to the big s
nearly 30 years. The Reds struggled in the r
season against top competition, going 0-7
CIS tournament teams. Conference first-tea
star Kyle VanGenne led AUS in kills with 22
aces per game with 0.49, while Tyler Veenhu
made the AUS first all-star team

Young track team eager for wins

Unranked Bears and tenth-ranked Pandas hoping to run, jump, and throw their way to the Can West podium

NICK FROST

When the Bears and Pandas track and field teams head to Regina this weekend for the Canada West Championship, they'll do so sporting a much younger look overall than they have in previous years.

Team coach Georgette Reed, when asked about her team's chances in the Queen City, was quick to point out that many of the athletes competing for the Green and Gold this time around are going to be experiencing this tournament for the first time. Both sides will look to their remaining veterans to provide leadership and the strong performances that will keep them afloat in the standings.

"We have a really young team this year, a lot of first-years and not a lot of veterans, but things still look fairly good. I don't think that we're going to be in contention for winning conference championships or anything like that, but I think we're putting the right building blocks in place to have a great team for the future," Reed admitted.

"We're looking now at what we can do so that we can have a really strong team next year and the year after—we're looking at maybe two years down the road having that team again that'll win a conference championship and maybe go on to medal for a national championship. So we're just trying to build and fill the moulds."

In the meantime, Alberta sports a small core of returning veterans led by the defending Canada West high-jump champion Lindsey Bergevin and varsity super-athlete Paula Findlay, both of whom should contend for individual medals. One pleasant surprise for the Bears side will be the return of current Bears basketball player Matt Cardoza to the fold. Because of the Hoop Bears' early exit from the Canada West playoffs, Cardoza was able to find his way back into the fold just in time for the team's first major tournament.

"Matt Cardoza is able to jump in because of what happened with basketball—unfortunately, they didn't make it into nationals, so he'll be back for the long-jump and high-jump," Reed said. "His basketball has kept him in training and in really good shape; he's been jumping well."

The biggest challenge on both sides will likely come from the Calgary Dinos and Saskatchewan Huskies, both of whom currently rank in the top-ten amongst men and women in the country. Reed's plan of attack to cut some of these teams down to size, however, is to steal points in their opponents' stronger competitions.

"Competition seems really even, but Calgary has a strong team because they've got a few veterans that are back from last year and, of course, their team was amongst the best in the country," Reed said. "We're probably on par with Regina or Manitoba; Saskatchewan might be ahead of us in some of the relays. Across the board, we're quite competitive, but every team does have their strong points. Hopefully, we'll be able to balance things out and steal some points from some people."



FILE PHOTO: PAUL SWANSON

MAKING LINES IN THE SAND Though somewhat green, Alberta's track team wants to make its mark.

NATIONAL TOP-TENS

Mens Track and Field Rankings (as of 26 February, 2009)

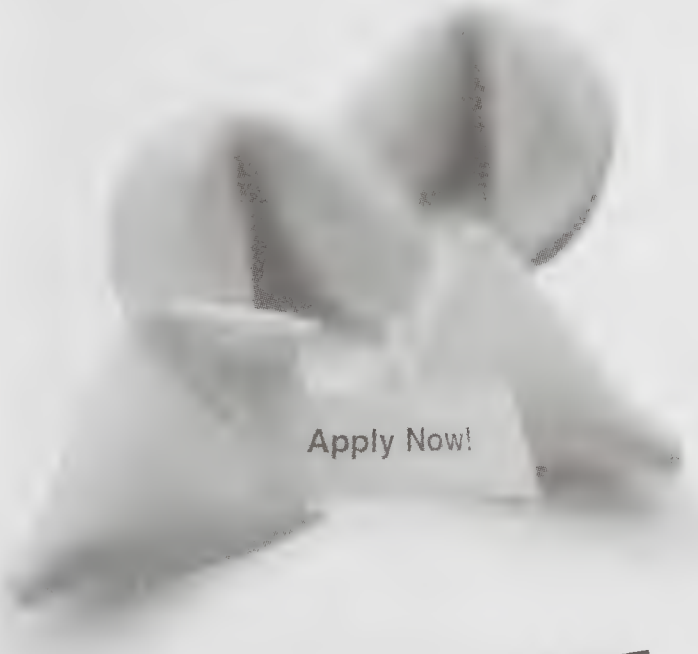
1 Windsor Lancers (Last week: 1)
2 Sherbrooke Vert et Or (Last week: 2)
3 Guelph Gryphons (Last week: 3)
4 York Lions (Last week: 4)
T5 Manitoba Bisons (Last week: 5)
T5 Ottawa Gee Gees (Last week: 6)
7 Saskatchewan Huskies (Last week: 7)
8 Western Ontario Mustangs (Last week: 9)
9 Calgary Dinos (Last week: 8)
10 Dalhousie Tigers (Last week: 10)

Womens Track and Field Rankings (as of 26 February, 2009)

1 Guelph Gryphons (Last week: T1)
2 Windsor Lancers (Last week: T1)
3 Toronto Varsity Blues (Last week: T1)
4 Western Ontario Mustangs (Last week: 5)
5 Saskatchewan Huskies (Last week: 4)
6 Calgary Dinos (Last week: 6)
7 Sherbrooke Vert et Or (Last week: 8)
8 Ottawa Gee Gees (Last week: 9)
9 Regina Cougars (Last week: 7)
10 Alberta Pandas (Last week: 10)

2009 Canada West Track and Field Championships (hosted by the University of Regina)

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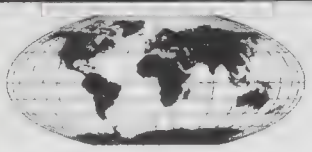
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Campus Recreation Enhancement Fund
2009-2010 Applications

The Campus Recreation Enhancement Fund (CREF) was created to help ensure that high quality campus recreation programs, equipment and facilities remain diverse, convenient, accessible, equitable, and affordable to all University of Alberta Students' Union members.

Recreation for all is an integral part of a positive U of A experience. Therefore, those organizations applying for funding from CREF must show that their request will have a positive impact on student life at the University of Alberta. The request must facilitate healthy, active lifestyles for University of Alberta students.

Application forms may be obtained in the
Campus Recreation Offices
Rm. W-10 and W-90, Van Vliet Centre
or ONLINE at;
www.campusrec.ualberta.ca
Application Deadline: March 2, 2009

Financial support available to facilitate healthy, active lifestyle projects!

WHO WATCHES THE WATCHMEN?
You could, with the help of the Gateway!



WIN a double pass to attend the advance screening of WATCHMEN on Wednesday March 4 at 7 p.m. at the Empire City Centre Cinemas. One of 10 double passes will be awarded in a random draw on Monday March 2.

How to enter: E-mail your name, phone number and e-mail address to contests@gateway.ualberta.ca by 6 p.m. Monday March 2. One pass per entry.

OPENS IN THEATRES EVERYWHERE MARCH 6, 2009



JEFF MARTIN

Living in the past keeping Oil's boys club from present success



CONAL PIERSE
Sports Commentary

It's easy to make fun of a Jets fan—those sorry, deluded individuals who throw on their old Teemu Selanne jerseys and strut around town as if their hockey team hasn't been gone for over a decade, heckling your team from the back of the bar like the move to Phoenix never happened. And while we take comfort in the fact that at least the Oil are still around, Edmonton and her fans are really no better.

Our team is ever the underdog, but never the Cinderella story. We get beat, and beat, and beat, and as a team and a city, we take it. We take it, because we were champions once. 19 years ago, we won our last of five Stanley Cups and we've been holding on to that memory ever since—telling ourselves that we're champions. And it's this mentality, this bullshit rose-tinted reminiscing, that's causing all the grief for our franchise.

The Oilers have let things slide that no other team would, made trades and raised salaries for players that no other team would, and it's all because we're willing to forgive and forget so long as we have our memories. Craig MacTavish has led the Oilers to the playoffs a mere three times in the past seven years, and two of those times we were out in the first round. The year after our heartwarming and soulcrushing second-place finish to the Carolina Hurricanes, the Oilers placed dismally, finishing 25th in the league. But while most clubs would fire their coach—like Dallas did to Ken Hitchcock in '01/02, with the Flyers following suit in '06/07—the Oilers saw fit to stick with MacT. And while you might call that standing behind your man, it's quite the opposite.

Because he was part of the glory days back in the '80s, MacTavish has become immune to any form of demotion. He has consistently failed to motivate a team of talented young players, getting dismal performances out of the likes of Joffrey Lupul, Dustin Penner, and Erik Cole. And when his team is doing poorly, rather than handling it diplomatically, MacT is quick to single out players, lambasting them in the media and placing the team's failings squarely on their shoulders alone. But so long as his teammate Kevin Lowe is general manager, we're not getting rid of MacT any time soon.

What the Oilers have established is no longer a hockey franchise—it's an old boys club. If you do good once, then you're set for life. And this doesn't just apply to the team from the 1980s. Nearly all of the Oilers who came up big in the '05/06 Stanley Cup run have been held onto, long after they've outlived their usefulness, and most have even been given raises.

Fernando Pisani's salary was quadrupled, jumping from $611 800 to $2.5 million, all because of the points he scored during the playoffs. However, both before and after those few weeks, he has failed to achieve that same level of play. In a similar vein, the Oilers have held onto Dwayne Roloson—a 40-year-old with not much left in the tank—over a younger Mathieu Garon, who wasn't given a fair shake in his second season with the Copper and Blue.

But poor trades and questionable moves have been the hallmark of Kevin Lowe's career as GM. Aside from lucking out when he picked up Chris Pronger, he's failed to make a significant impact in the team's performance, allowing them to stagnate at eighth or worse in the West. But once again, poor performance has been rewarded for old victories, and Lowe now sits as President of Hockey Operations and de facto GM—puppetmaster, if you will.

If the Oilers are ever going to be great again, we need to forget the past. What matters is how we're performing in the here and now and, like any other club does when things are going poorly, it's time to change things up.

If we stay the current course, Oilers fans are just going to be another washed-up drunk in an old jersey, heckling from the back of the bar while thinking on a team that's been gone for a long, long time.

SPORTS SHORTS

Compiled by Matt Pretty

Golden Bears Basketball

The Pandas basketball squad (16-6 regular season, 4-1 playoffs) heads to the coast this weekend for the Canada West Final Four. Not only will the conference championship be up for grabs, but the tournament will likely determine national championship seeding as well.

Alberta has drawn a tough matchup in the semi-finals as they will play the Simon Fraser Clan (22-1 regular season, 4-0 playoffs) in their own gym. In their only meeting this season, the Clan posted a 72-62 victory over the Pandas in Burnaby. SFU is riding a 25-game winning streak and is ranked number-one in the country, while Alberta trails behind in fifth. Last season, the Pandas also played SFU in the conference semi-final and lost 72-55; no doubt retribution will be on the minds of some of the Pandas.

Tipoff for the semi-final is at 7:15pm on Friday, with the bronze and gold medal games going at 6pm and 8pm on Saturday. A radio webcast for Friday's game is available at cknw.com

Winter Universiade

The Canadian women's hockey team finished up the preliminary round in the Winter Universiade with a 5-0 record, beating Japan 4-1 to close out the round-robin with three Alberta Pandas accounting for all goals tallied. Jenn Newton scored twice, while Andrea Boras and Rayanne Reeve also notched markers. Canada will play Slovakia in one semi-final on Thursday, while Finland and China will play in the other.

On the men's side, the Canucks finished the round-robin with a perfect 4-0 record after a 7-2 defeat of Kazakhstan. They will play another opponent to be determined in a semi-final on Friday evening.

Wrestling

The Bears and Pandas wrestling squads will battle for the podium with the best in the country this weekend at the Championships.

Among the representatives for the Bears side are conference Second Team All-Star Michael Hulbert and rookie Jason Wass. Katherine Mah will be the lone Panda at the tournament after a disappointing team showing at the conference finals.

Action kicks off Friday morning at 10am at the University of Calgary.

Volunteer Opportunities Boards & Committees

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA STUDENTS' UNION

TERMS OF OFFICE: MAY 1 2009 TO APRIL 30, 2010 (IN MOST CASES)
APPLICATION DEADLINE: MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2009, 5:00 PM NO EXCEPTIONS
SUBMIT COMPLETE PACKAGE TO 2-900 SUB
APPLICATION FORMS: AVAILABLE AT SU RECEPTION DESK 2-900 SUB, AND SUB, HUB, CAB, ETLC INFO BOOTHS AND FACULTY ASSOCIATION OFFICES OR ONLINE AT WWW.SU.UALBERTA.CA.

Important instructions

- Please submit only single sided documents. We thank everyone who applies, however ONLY shortlisted applicants will be notified.
- Please be available for the noted interview time.
- Applicants must be undergraduate students and have paid full Students' Union fees.
- Positions are subject to Council ratification and signing of employment contract.

STUDENTS' UNION BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

ACADEMIC RELATIONS GROUP

- Participate in activities raising student awareness of academic issues
- Assists and advises the Vice President Academic on academic issues.
- Participates in workshops & seminars to improve teaching on campus

For further information contact the VP Academic John Braga at 492-4236.
Interviews scheduled for Monday, April 6, after 5:00 pm.

CAMPAIGN PLANNING AND ACTION COMMITTEE

- Assists and advises the Vice President External
- Is actively involved in planning and implementing SU campus campaigns and events

For further information contact the VP External Beverly Eastham at 492-4236.
Interviews scheduled for Thursday, April 9, after 5:00 pm.

STUDENT LIFE PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

- Makes recommendations regarding SU entertainment, planning & implementation
- Plans and implements WOW & Anti-Freeze
- Assists and advises the Vice-President Student Life

For further information contact VP Student Life Kristen Flath at 492-4236
Interviews scheduled for Friday, April 10, after 5:00 PM

STUDENT LIFE SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- Provides input on non-academic issues on campus
- Provides input on Student Services issues
- Plans and implements WOW & Anti-Freeze
- Assists and advises the Vice-President Student Life

For further information contact VP Student Life Kristen Flath at 492-4236
Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, April 15, after 5:00 PM

AWARDS SELECTION COMMITTEE

- Selects annual SU award winners
- Involved in numerous aspects of planning annual awards night

For further information contact the Executuve Assistant Catherine van de Braak: 492-4241.
Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, April 8 after 5:00 PM

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

COMMITTEE ON OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY & ENVIRONMENAL ISSUES

- Requires one undergraduate student
- To recommend policy and serve as the focal point for consideration of policy issues in the University community

MEETS: At the call of the Chair
Interviews scheduled for Monday, April 6, after 5:00 pm

ONECARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- Requires one undergraduate student to provide feedback and guidance on all aspects of the current and future ONEcard operations

MEETS: At the call of the Chair
For further information on Standing Committees contact the VP Academic John Braga at 492-4236.
Interviews scheduled for Monday, April 6, after 5:00 pm.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA SENATE

- Requires three undergraduate students appointed by the Students' Union
- The Senate's responsibility is to inquire into any matter that may enhance the image of the University and act as a link between the University and the public. The Senate may also authorize the conferring of Honorary Degrees.

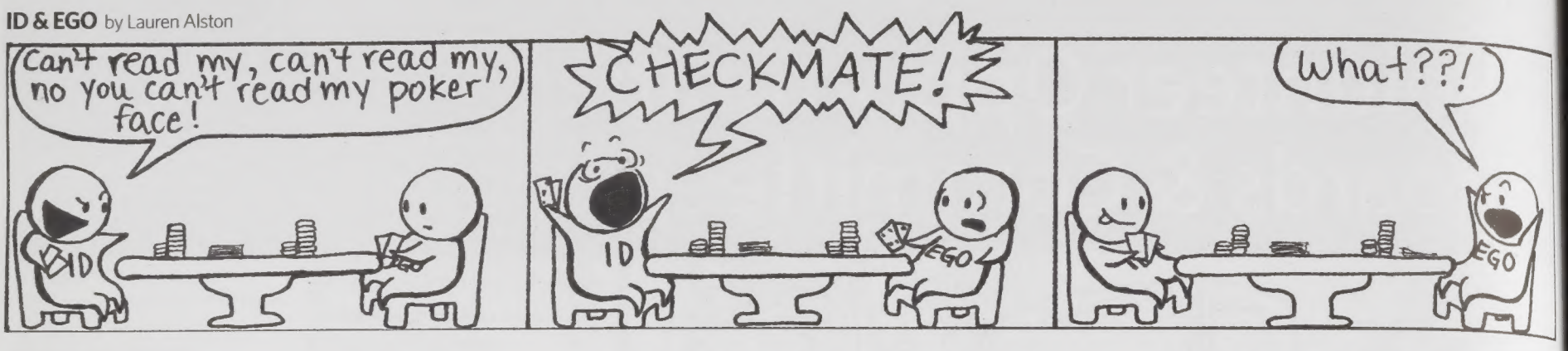
MEETS: Four times yearly
For further information contact the VP External Beverly Eastham at 492-4236
Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, April 8, after 5:00 pm.

FACULTY BASED INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY STEERING COMMITTEE

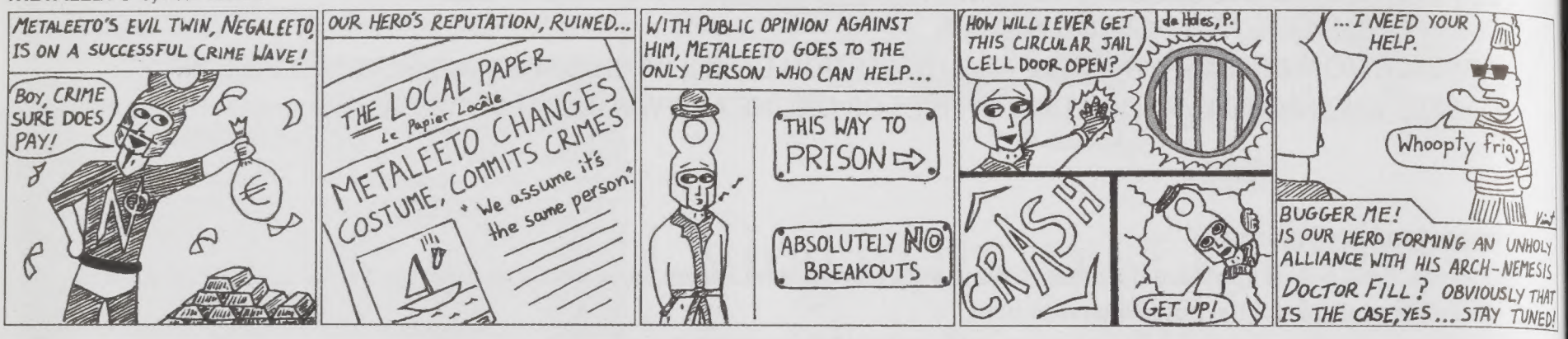
- Requires four undergraduate students appointed by the Students' Union
- Successful candidates should have an interest and basic knowledge of information/communication technology and/or campus computing environments.

For further information contact the VP Academic John Braga at 492-4236
Interviews scheduled for Monday, April 6, after 5:00 pm.

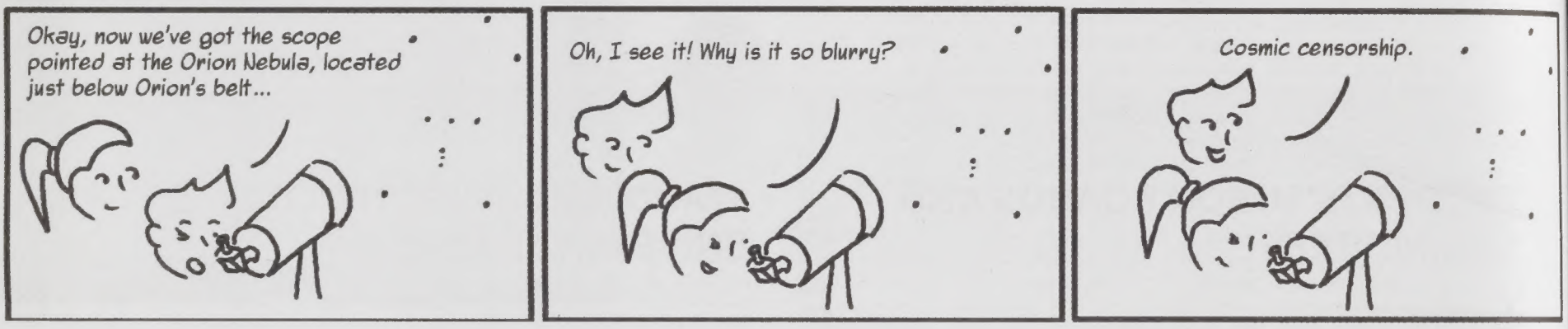
ID & EGO by Lauren Alston



METALEETO by Ross Vincent



SEXY GEEK by Ross Lockwood



SAD HONKYTONKS OF CURTIS STREET by Curtis Horsburgh



UNISAUCE by Hylie Chan



MAN VS NATURE by Conal Peirse



CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classified ad, please go to www.campusclassifieds.ca

FOR RENT

Looking for a place to live? Check out www.rentingspaces.ca, the student housing registry. Free to search and free for students to post roommate listings!

WANTED

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SERVICES

The Alternative Video Spot 10050 82 Avenue Chekov, Shaw, Austen, Shakespeare...Why read it when you can see it? (All rentals are $2.50 on Mondays with a valid student I.D.)

EMPLOYMENT — PART TIME

NE Edmonton companion animal veterinary clinic has PT/FT positions for persons seeking work and experience. Fax resume to: Sifton Park Animal Hospital (780)476-9958

Perfect for students! Childcare center near U of A requires staff for shift work: 7-9am and/or 2:30-6pm, Mon-Fri. Fun, friendly environment with children 6-12 years. Great pay and government incentive. Call Roxanne 780-905-9416

Staples Strathcona Location is hiring Copy Centre production people, Cashiers and Computer Dept. Sales people. Days, Evenings, Weekends available. Apply at 6510 Gateway Blvd.

Part-time weekday position for a Lab Assistant in a busy service lab on the south side. You will help with lab maintenance and simple analyses. Looking for a motivated Science student seeking industry experience. Excellent opportunity for the right person. 8 to 20 hours a week, scheduling is flexible. Please send resume to: key@keystonelabs.ca. Thank you!.

EMPLOYMENT — TEMPORARY

Make money. Golf for free. Coloniale Golf Club are hiring for all positions. Lounge, banquet, kitchen, guest services. Fax 780 929 254 or email cjaciuk@coloniale.car Phone 780-929-4653 ext 221

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Volunteers needed to teach English as a Second Language to adult newcomers. Downtown, classroom teaching, 2-3 hours/wk. Teaching materials provided. Ongoing training opportunities. Gain teaching experience and meet people from around the world. Contact CCI-LEX at 780-944-0792 or lexprogram@cci-lex.ca

MISSED CONNECTIONS

You are a Danish exchange student working towards a PhD. I'm a heavyset man with salt/pepper hair, a beard & glasses. We met on 1 Feb on a tour of the heart research facilities & spoke at the wine & cheese. I wore a sport coat and used a cane. Interested in further conversation over coffee? Marvin Karrel 4831330

AND FINALLY

Day three on the front lines. After receiving a momentary suspension for abuse of my weapon, I've been reinstated as Gunnery Sergeant on the Hack-ginot Line. Armed with a Nerf Vulcan and a full chain of ammunition, I've got what it takes to defend our noble institution against all comers.



astronowatch

by Kati Kovacs

Well chumps, I've made it back safely from my super secret hidden mountain fortress. My days were filled with good physics, good food, and Canada's newest winter sport: ice soccer. Surprisingly I only came away with a few bruises. I also enjoyed the clear winter evenings, far away from the orange glow that is Edmonton. Jupiter is still visible in the evenings, bright in the west. Take a look for it, if the sky ever clears up.

Tomorrow night, an hour after sunset (7-ish) make sure you check out the moon and the planet Venus. The pair put on a nice show, low in the western sky. As both the moon and Venus are symbols of fertility in many cultures, any of you who want to make babies should give it a try tomorrow night. Babies!

The International Journal of Astrobiology recently published a paper that puts an upper limit on the number of intelligent civilizations that may have emerged in the Milky Way. The paper, which quotes results from computer models run at the University of Edinburgh, says that as many as 361 intelligent civilizations may have arose. I'm sure we'll be hearing from some of them soon.

AstronoWatch is a weekly feature that covers the goings-on in the night skies, the galaxy, and sometimes even Kati's personal life. Keep up with Astronowatch online at thegatewayonline.ca/astronowatch or check out the FABservatory's site at www.phys.ualberta.ca/observatory



PETE YEE

solution, tips and computer programs at www.sudoku.com

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NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN

NOMINATION DEADLINE
MARCH 10th AT 5PM

vote www.su.ualberta.ca/vote

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA STUDENTS' UNION

MARCH 2009 STUDENTS' COUNCIL & GFC GENERAL ELECTION SEATS AVAILABLE

Faculty	Students' Council Seats	General Faculties Council Seats
Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences	1	2
Arts	6	8
Augustana	1	1
Business	2	3
Education	3	4
Engineering	4	5
Law	1	1
Medicine & Dentistry	1	1
Native Studies	1	1
Nursing	1	1
Open Studies	1	0
Physical Education & Recreation	1	1
Pharmacy	1	1
Faculté Saint-Jean	1	1
Science	6	9

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